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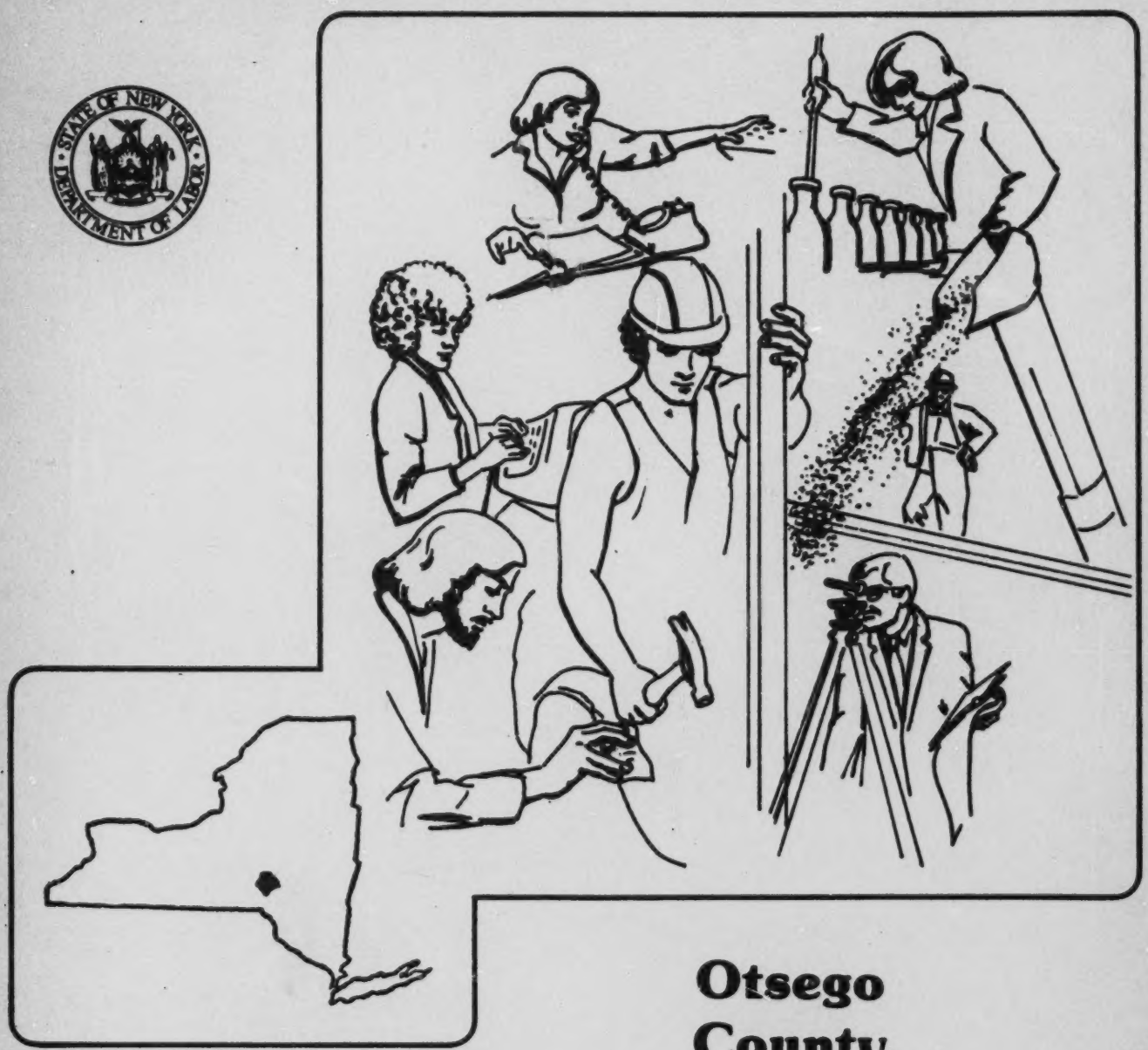
COUNTY PROFILES

Socio-Economic Characteristics



Otsego County

State of New York
Mario M. Cuomo, Governor

Department of Labor
Lillian Roberts, Commissioner

DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Louis W. Schisa, Director

This report was prepared by Norman Steele with the assistance of Judy Thompson and Muriel Warner.

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COUNTY PROFILES: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

OTSEGO COUNTY

WINTER 1983

New York State Department of Labor
Division of Research and Statistics
Bureau of Labor Market Information

OTSEGO COUNTY

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INTRODUCTION

Reliable, relevant, and up-to-date information on the socio-economic characteristics of counties is of vital importance to a wide range of planners, decision-makers, and researchers both inside and outside of government. To meet this need, the Division of Research and Statistics of the New York State Department of Labor has designed a research document entitled County Profiles: Socio-Economic Characteristics.

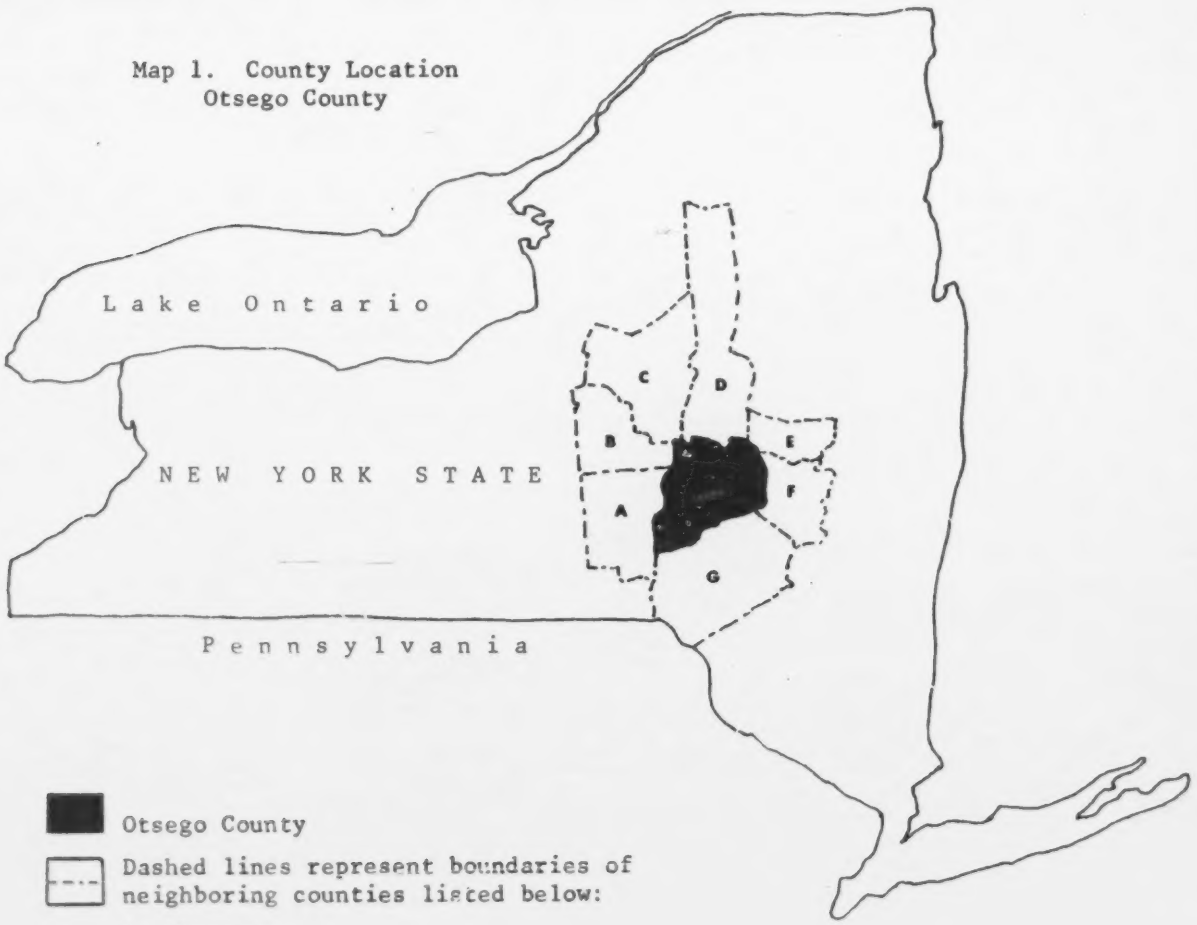
The purpose of each of these reports is to furnish, in a convenient format, useful information about a county or small group of counties in New York State.

Norman A. Steele
Principal Economist

I. Geographic Highlights

Otsego County is located in the Southern Tier East Region of New York State approximately 30 miles northeast of the City of Binghamton and 42 miles west of the City of Albany. It borders Chenango, Madison, Oneida, Herkimer, Montgomery, Schoharie, and Delaware counties. Map 1 locates Otsego County and its neighboring counties.

Map 1. County Location
Otsego County



Otsego County

Dashed lines represent boundaries of neighboring counties listed below:

A Chenango
B Madison
C Oneida
D Herkimer
E Montgomery
F Schoharie
G Delaware

Transportation Facilities

Highways--Otsego County, located along the paths of Interstate Route 88 and U.S. Route 20, is conveniently linked to larger metropolitan areas to the east and west. Interstate Route 88, a limited access four-lane highway, extends east to the state capital--Albany and west to Binghamton. Route 20 passes along the northern edge of the ounty and provides a direct route west to Syracuse and east to Albany. Within Otsego County exists a network of highways which interconnects populated areas in the county and provides excellent commuter routes to businesses located in the county and in neighboring counties.

Rail--The Delaware and Hudson, the Central New York, and the Cooperstown and Charlotte Valley Railways operate lines which pass through the County and make freight stops in Oneonta, Cooperstown, Cooperstown Junction, and Richfield Springs. Although there are no passenger stations in Otsego County, passenger service is available through AMTRAK in Utica.

Air Transportation--Otsego County has two public airports capable of serving small private or commercial aircraft. These are the F&F Airport (located near the City of Oneonta) and the Oneonta Airport (located near the Village of Laurens). Large commercial airlines services, available at the Oneida County Airport and the Albany County Airport, are within reasonable driving distances. Map 2 illustrates the transportation network in Otsego County in 1982.

Map 2. Transportation Network
Otsego County
1983

Geographic Characteristics

The Catskill Mountains dominate the terrain of Otsego County, creating a landscape of narrow winding valleys surrounded by rugged hills and mountains. In 1968, the county was generally more rural than the state as a whole. Only 1.2 percent of its land was devoted to residential, commercial, or industrial use while woodlands accounted for three-fifths of all land in the county and active agriculture utilized about three-tenths. Statewide, 4.1 percent of the land was used commercially, industrially or for housing. Table 1 presents the percent distribution of land by category of use for Otsego County and New York State in 1968.

Table 1. PERCENT OF LAND AREA BY CATEGORY OF USE
OTSEGO COUNTY AND NEW YORK STATE
1968

Category of use	Otsego County	New York State
Total surface area (square miles)	1,010.2	49,374.4
Active agriculture	29.0	21.9
Woodlands, forest	31.7	37.1
Woodlands, brushlands	29.3	17.6
Wet lands	2.4	4.2
Water	1.5	4.6
Residential high density	0.1	0.7
Residential medium density	0.2	1.3
Residential low and other	0.8	1.4
Commercial	0.1	0.4
Industrial	-	0.3
Extractive	0.1	0.4
Public, semi-public	0.2	1.1
Outdoor recreation	0.3	1.2
Transportation	0.1	0.5
Inactive or under construction	4.2	6.7

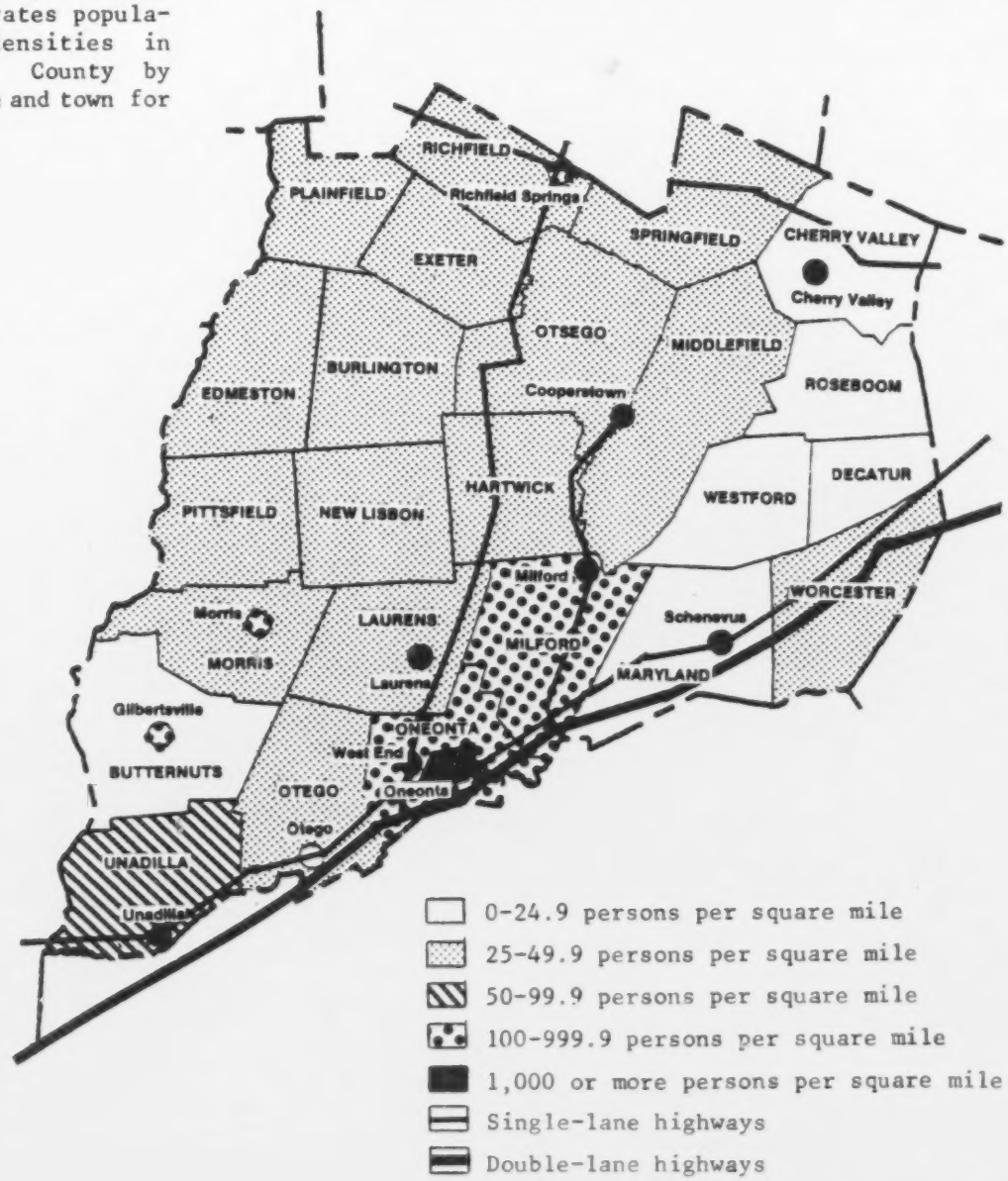
- Represents zero.
SOURCE: New York State Department of Commerce.

II. Population Trends and Characteristics

Population Trends

The 1980 census count for Otsego County was 59,075. The population density of 58.5 persons per square mile was far below the state average of 356 residents per square mile and ranked 51st among the 62 counties in the state. Population densities in the county ranged from a high of 3,929.7 persons per square mile in the City of Oneonta to a low of 12.9 persons per square mile in the balance of the Town of Cherry Valley (that portion of the Town of Cherry Valley located outside of the Village of Cherry Valley). In general, population densities were greatest along commuter routes to the City of Oneonta and Village of Unadilla and lowest in the eastern portions of the county. Map 3 illustrates population densities in Otsego County by village and town for 1980.

Map 3. POPULATION DENSITY BY COUNTY SUBDIVISION
OTSEGO COUNTY
1980



From 1900 to 1980, Otsego County's population increased only 20.7 percent while the statewide population grew 141.5 percent. Census records indicate that the county's population dropped during three of the first four decades of the century and then grew at varying rates during the next four decades. The most rapid growth occurred between 1940 and 1950. A county growth rate of 5.2 percent during the seventies was noteworthy since the statewide population dropped 3.8 percent during the same period. Graph 1 illustrates population trends and Tables 2 and 3 show population levels and growth rates--by decade--from 1900 to 1980 for New York State and Otsego County. See Appendix II for a comparison of the population growth rates of Otsego County and the state with those of the nation during the period 1900-1980.

Graph 1. POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS
OTSEGO COUNTY
1900-1980

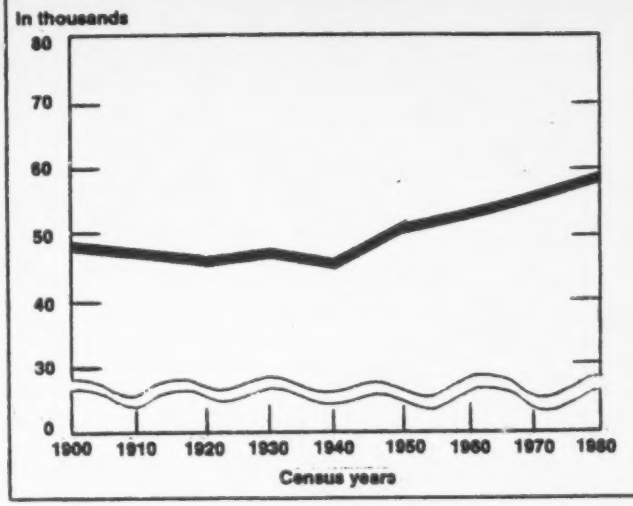


Table 2. DECENNIAL POPULATION COUNTS
NEW YORK STATE AND OTSEGO COUNTY
1900 - 1980

Census year	New York State	Otsego County
1900	7,268,894	48,939
1910	9,113,614	47,216
1920	10,385,227	46,200
1930	12,588,066	46,710
1940	13,479,142	46,082
1950	14,830,192	50,763
1960	16,782,304	51,942
1970	18,241,391	56,181
1980	17,557,288	59,075

Table 3. PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION
BY DECADE
NEW YORK STATE AND OTSEGO COUNTY
1900 - 1980

Decade	New York State	Otsego County
1900-1910	25.4	-3.5
1910-1920	14.0	-2.2
1920-1930	21.2	1.1
1930-1940	7.1	-1.3
1940-1950	10.0	10.2
1950-1960	13.2	2.3
1960-1970	8.7	8.2
1970-1980	-3.8	5.2
1900-1980	141.5	20.7

Otsego County's total population grew 16.4 percent between 1950 and 1980. The growth rates of towns and villages within the ounty, however, differed substantially from this rate. Some towns experienced rapid growth while others suffered population losses. For example, the number of residents of the Town of Otego increased 58.3 percent while the population of the Village of Cooperstown dropped 14.1 percent. Within some towns and villages, growth rates were even more variable. In many instances, populations residing in older neighborhoods were mature and grew very little. Greatest population expansion, on the other hand, occurred primarily in areas of new residential construction. The

Village of Cooperstown, spanning the border between the towns of Middlefield and Otsego, is an example of uneven growth. Population residing in the portion of the village located in the Town of Middlefield increased an impressive 277.8 percent while the section of the village situated in Otsego Town fell 21.0 percent.

In general, towns grew most rapidly if they were located along primary roadways to principal commercial and employment centers in the area. The Town of Otego, for example is linked by Routes 7 and 88 to the City of Oneonta. Map 4 illustrates the pattern of growth in Otsego County over the period 1950 to 1980 while Tables 4 and 5 present the census counts and growth rates by county subdivision for 1950, 1960, 1970, and 1980.

Map 4. POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS BY COUNTY SUBDIVISION
OTSEGO COUNTY
1950-1980

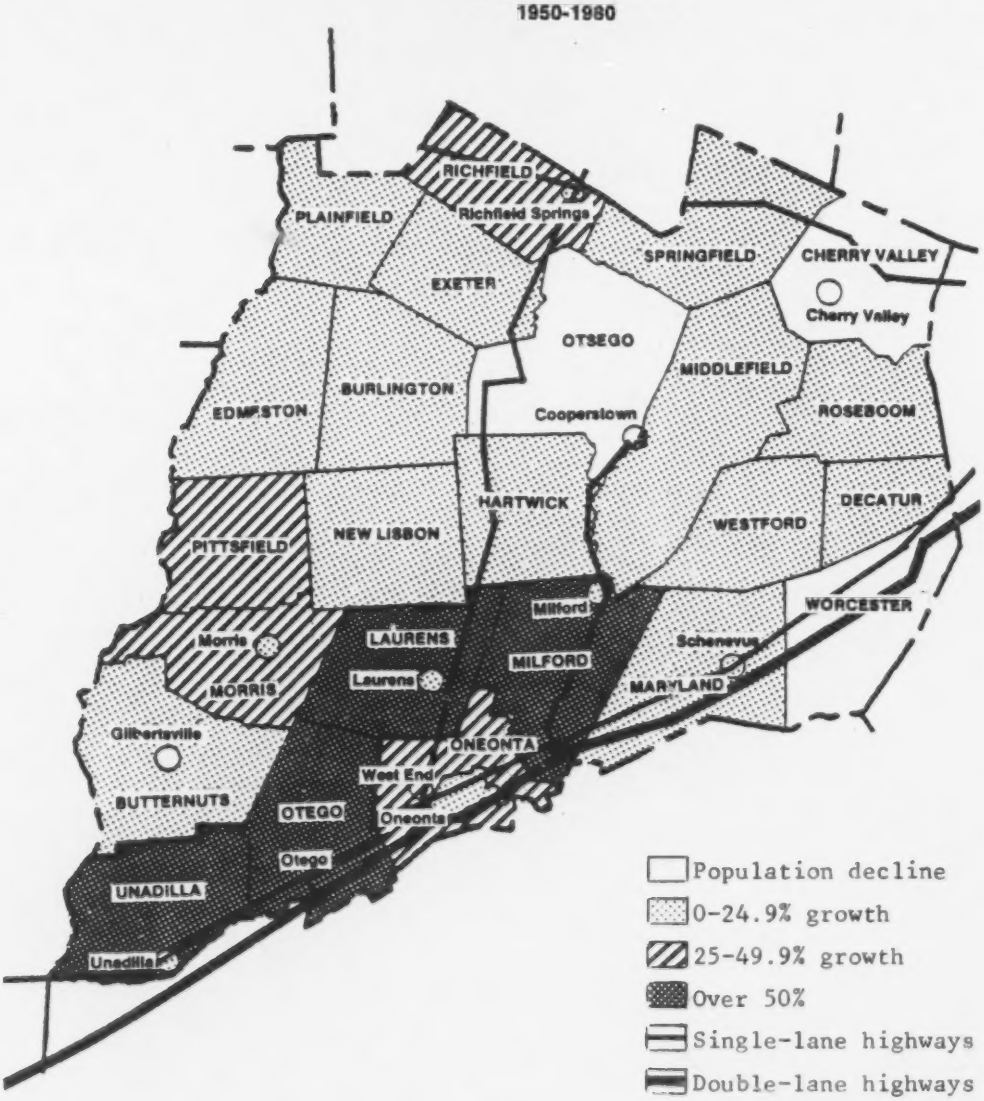


Table 4. POPULATION BY COUNTY SUBDIVISION
OTSEGO COUNTY
1950, 1960, 1970, AND 1980

Place or town	1950	1960	1970	1980
Places 2,500 and over				
Oneonta City	13,564	13,412	16,030*	14,933
Places under 2,500				
Cherry Valley Village	760	668	661	684
Cooperstown Village	2,727	2,553	2,403	2,342
Gilbertsville Village	456	522	552	455
Laurens Village	261	291	320	276
Milford Village	502	548	527	514
Morris Village	641	677	675	681
Otego Village	699	875	956	1,089
Richfield Springs Village	1,534	1,630	1,540	1,561
Schenevus Village	568	493	540	625
Unadilla Village	1,317	1,586	1,489	1,367
Towns				
Burlington Town	959	809	803	1,045
Butternuts Town	1,315	1,352	1,433	1,486
(Gilbertsville Village)	(456)	(522)	(552)	(455)
Cherry Valley Town	1,330	1,156	1,122	1,205
(Cherry Valley Village)	(760)	(668)	(661)	(684)
Decatur Town	279	254	281	312
Edmeston Town	1,563	1,721	1,709	1,732
Exeter Town	924	923	996	968
Hartwick Town	1,473	1,400	1,631	1,796
Laurens Town	1,447	1,498	1,730	2,101
(Laurens Village)	(261)	(291)	(320)	(276)
Maryland Town	1,556	1,386	1,465	1,690
(Schenevus Village)	(568)	(493)	(540)	(625)
Middlefield Town	1,481	1,376	1,457	1,870
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(63)	(97)	(172)	(238)
Milford Town	1,913	2,055	2,485	2,685
(Milford Village)	(502)	(548)	(527)	(514)
Morris Town	1,440	1,525	1,630	1,780
(Morris Village)	(641)	(677)	(675)	(681)
New Lisbon Town	877	812	823	948
Oneonta Town	3,508	4,068	4,185*	4,655
Otego Town	1,769	2,008	2,249	2,801
(Otego Village)	(699)	(875)	(956)	(1,089)
Otsego Town	4,304	4,121	3,998	4,012
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(2,664)	(2,456)	(2,231)	(2,104)
Pittsfield Town	850	880	968	1,067
Plainfield Town	729	764	742	847
Richfield Town	2,339	2,662	2,602	2,608
(Richfield Springs Village)	(1,534)	(1,630)	(1,540)	(1,561)

Table 4. (continued)

Place or town	1950	1960	1970	1980
Roseboom Town	570	518	483	630
Springfield Town	1,184	1,121	1,136	1,239
Unadilla Town	2,689	3,649	3,863	4,020
(Unadilla Village)	(1,317)	(1,586)	(1,489)	(1,367)
Westford Town	602	526	435	652
Worcester Town	2,098	1,946	1,925	1,993
TOTAL: Otsego County	50,763	51,942	56,181	59,075

ina = information not available.

* Part of Oneonta Town annexed by Oneonta City.

SOURCE: U.S. Census of Population: 1970, PC (1)-A34, Table 10 and 1980 Census of Population and Housing PHC 80-V-34, Table 1.

Table 5. PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION BY COUNTY SUBDIVISION
OTSEGO COUNTY
1950 - 1980

Place or town	1950-1960	1960-1970	1970-1980	1950-1980
Places 2,500 and over				
Oneonta City	-1.1	19.5*	-6.8	10.1
Places under 2,500				
Cherry Valley Village	-12.1	-1.0	3.5	-10.0
Cooperstown Village	-6.4	-5.9	-2.5	-14.1
Gilbertsville Village	14.5	5.8	-17.6	-0.2
Laurens Village	11.5	10.0	-13.8	5.7
Milford Village	9.2	-3.8	-2.5	2.4
Morris Village	5.6	-0.3	0.9	6.2
Otego Village	25.2	9.2	13.9	55.8
Richfield Springs Village	6.2	-5.5	1.4	1.8
Schenevus Village	-13.2	9.5	15.7	10.0
Unadilla Village	20.4	-6.1	-8.2	3.8
Towns				
Burlington Town	-15.6	-0.7	30.1	9.0
Butternuts Village	2.8	6.0	3.7	13.0
(Gilbertsville Village)	(14.5)	(5.7)	(-17.6)	(-0.2)
Cherry Valley Town	-13.1	-2.9	7.4	-9.4
(Cherry Valley Village)	(-12.1)	(-1.0)	(3.5)	(-10.0)
Decatur Town	-9.0	10.6	11.0	11.8
Edmeston Town	10.1	-0.7	1.3	10.8
Exeter Town	-0.1	7.9	-2.8	4.8
Hartwick Town	-5.0	16.5	10.1	21.9
Laurens Town	3.5	15.5	21.4	45.2
(Laurens Village)	(11.5)	(10.0)	(-13.8)	(5.7)
Maryland Town	-10.9	5.7	15.4	8.6
(Schenevus Village)	(13.2)	(9.5)	(15.7)	(10.0)
Middlefield Town	-7.1	5.9	28.3	26.3
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(54.0)	(77.3)	(38.4)	(277.8)
Milford Town	7.4	20.9	8.0	40.4
(Milford Village)	(9.2)	(-3.8)	(-2.5)	(2.4)
Morris Town	5.9	6.9	9.2	23.6
(Morris Village)	(5.6)	(-0.3)	(0.9)	(6.2)
New Lisbon Town	-7.4	1.4	15.2	8.1
Oneonta Town	16.0	2.9*	11.2	32.7
Otego Town	13.5	12.0	24.5	58.3
(Otego Village)	(25.2)	(9.2)	(13.9)	(55.8)
Otsego Town	-4.2	-3.0	0.4	-6.8
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(-7.8)	(-9.2)	(-5.7)	(-21.0)
Pittsfield Town	3.5	10.0	10.2	25.5
Plainfield Town	4.8	-2.9	14.2	16.2
Richfield Town	13.8	-2.2	0.2	11.5
(Richfield Springs Village)	(6.2)	(-5.5)	(1.4)	(1.8)

Table 5. (continued)

Place or town	1950-1960	1960-1970	1970-1980	1950-1980
Roseboom Town	-9.1	-6.8	30.4	10.5
Springfield Town	-5.3	1.3	9.1	4.6
Unadilla Town	35.7	5.9	4.1	49.5
(Unadilla Village)	(20.4)	(-6.1)	(-8.2)	(3.8)
Westford Town	-12.6	-17.3	49.9	8.3
Worcester Town	-7.2	-1.1	3.5	-5.0
TOTAL: Otsego County	2.3	8.2	5.2	16.4

ina = information not available.
* Part of Oneonta Town annexed by Oneonta City.

During the period 1950 to 1980, the proportion of Otsego County's population residing in rural areas increased. In 1950, individuals living outside city or village limits comprised 54.6 percent of the county population. By 1980, rural residents accounted for 58.5 percent of the total. This suggests that as personal transportation facilities improved, many residents chose to locate in less populated areas and commute longer distances to their jobs.

Population Characteristics

Consistent with state and national trends, Otsego County's population aged during the period 1970 to 1980. The county's median age climbed from 27.6 years in 1970 to 29.7 years in 1980 while the state's median age increased from 30.3 to 31.9 years. Youth 15 years of age or less accounted for 26.3 percent of the county population in 1970 but by 1980 the age group had declined to 21.1 percent of the total. A corresponding increase occurred in all other age groups but one--the 45 to 54 years of age group whose members were born during the great depression of the 1930's. Of particular importance to the local economy was the jump in the number of persons 25-44 years of age since this group accounts for the bulk of large purchases and is a very productive component of the labor force. Graph 2 compares the 1970 and 1980 age distributions for Otsego County and New York State. Table 6 presents the distribution by age and sex of Otsego County's population in 1980. See Appendix III for greater detail of Otsego County's age distribution in 1970 and 1980.

Graph 2. COMPARATIVE AGE DISTRIBUTIONS
1970 and 1980

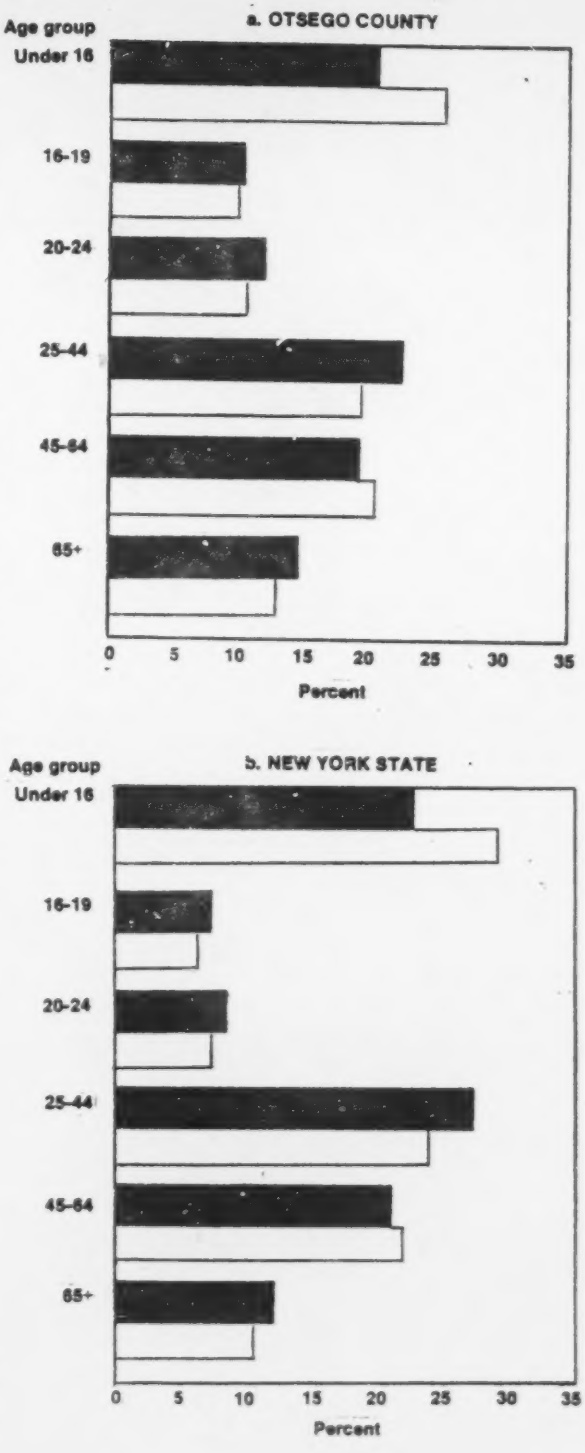


Table 6. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE AND SEX
OTSEGO COUNTY
1980

Age group	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
15 or younger	12,458	21.1	6,399	22.8	6,059	19.5
16-19 years	6,141	10.4	2,841	10.1	3,300	10.6
20-21 years	4,065	6.9	1,804	6.4	2,261	7.3
22-29 years	7,102	12.0	3,467	12.4	3,635	11.7
30-44 years	9,548	16.1	4,722	16.8	4,826	15.6
45-54 years	5,373	9.1	2,599	9.3	2,774	9.0
55-64 years	5,901	10.0	2,749	9.8	3,152	10.2
65 and older	8,487	14.4	3,488	12.4	4,999	16.1
TOTAL	59,075	101.1	28,069	100.0	31,006	99.9

Median age (years)	Total	Male	Female
County	29.7	28.8	30.7
State	31.9	30.3	33.4
Nation	30.1	28.8	31.3
Sex distribution			
Percent of total			
County	100.0	47.5	52.5
State	100.0	47.5	52.5
Nation	100.0	48.6	51.4

SOURCE: 1980 Census of Population Characteristics of People and Housing prepared by the New York State Data Center, New York State Department of Commerce.

In 1980, Otsego County's population was 98.6 percent white, 0.6 percent black, 0.1 percent American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut, 0.4 percent Asian or Pacific Islander, and 0.3 percent "other" races. In addition. 0.7 percent of the county's residents also categorized themselves as of Spanish origin. Nearly six out of every ten persons of minority races in the county resided in the City of Oneonta and nearly four out of every ten persons of Spanish origin resided there. Table 7 presents the 1980 racial distribution of Otsego County residents by county subdivision.

Table 7. POPULATION BY RACE AND SPANISH ORIGIN
OTSEGO COUNTY SUBDIVISION
1980

Location	Total	Race					Spanish origin
		White	Black	American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut.	Asian and Pacific Islander	Other	
Otsego County	59,075	58,283	355	70	207	160	414
Oneonta City	14,933	14,479	241	13	121	79	159
Burlington Town	1,045	1,040	4	0	1	0	4
Butternuts Town	1,486	1,482	1	1	0	2	3
(Gilbertsville Village)	(455)	(454)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(3)
Cherry Valley Town	1,205	1,196	2	5	0	2	9
(Cherry Valley Village)	(684)	(683)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(9)
Decatur Town	312	312	0	0	0	0	4
Edmeston Town	1,732	1,724	2	3	3	0	12
Exeter Town	968	946	10	7	1	4	5
Hartwick Town	1,796	1,792	1	1	2	0	9
Laurens Town	2,101	2,092	2	1	0	6	14
(Laurens Village)	(276)	(276)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(6)
Maryland Town	1,690	1,668	6	8	6	2	14
(Schenevus Village	(625)	(611)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(0)	(2)
Middlefield Town	1,870	1,859	3	0	4	4	12
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(238)	(232)	(0)	(0)	(4)	(2)	(1)
Milford Town	2,685	2,674	4	4	1	2	33
(Milford Village)	(514)	(512)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(8)
Morris Town	1,780	1,773	1	0	3	3	9
(Morris Village)	(681)	(677)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(2)	(4)
New Lisbon Town	948	942	4	1	1	0	6
Oneonta Town	4,655	4,615	12	3	14	11	36
Otego Town	2,801	2,768	13	9	6	5	20
(Otego Village)	(1,089)	(1,074)	(5)	(2)	(3)	(5)	(3)
Otsego Town	4,012	3,983	3	1	8	17	10
(Cooperstown Village-part)	(2,104)	(2,094)	(0)	(0)	(7)	(3)	(6)
Pittsfield Town	1,067	1,053	10	0	4	0	7
Plainfield Town	847	832	7	1	2	5	1
Richfield Town	2,608	2,585	3	6	9	5	4
(Richfield Springs Village)	(1,561)	(1,541)	(2)	(4)	(9)	(5)	(2)
Roseboom Town	630	628	2	0	0	0	0
Springfield Town	1,239	1,239	0	0	0	0	3
Unadilla Town	4,020	3,974	21	3	12	10	29
(Unadilla Village)	(1,367)	(1,350)	(8)	(0)	(2)	(7)	(10)
Westford Town	652	647	2	0	3	0	6
Worcester Town	1,993	1,980	1	3	6	3	5

NOTE: Counts of population by race and of Spanish origin are provisional. Information on race was obtained through self-identification. Spanish origin is not considered a racial group since persons of Spanish origin may be of any race. Persons of Spanish origin were included in the categories white, black, and "other" races. For further definitions refer to "Glossary of Terms Used in This Report."

In 1980, the nonwhite population of Otsego County was generally younger than the white population. Of the 792 nonwhites in the county, 26.6 percent were 17 years of age or younger and 5.8 percent were 65 years of age or older. Among whites, youth 17 years of age or less made up 24.5 percent and senior citizens, those 65 years and older, accounted for 14.5 percent. Tables 8a and 8b present the age distribution of the 1980 population in Otsego County by race/ethnicity.

Table 8a. AGE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY
OTSEGO COUNTY
1980

Race/ethnicity	Total	Age (years)			
		4 or younger	5-17	18-64	65+
Total	59,075	3,467	11,028	36,093	8,487
White	58,283	3,412	10,872	35,558	8,441
Black	355	24	52	255	24
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut.	70	4	13	49	4
Asian or Pacific Islander	207	12	52	131	12
Other	160	15	39	100	6
Spanish origin	414	35	86	263	30
White	345	29	73	216	27
Black	12	ina	ina	ina	ina

SOURCE: 1980 Census of Population, Characteristics of People and Housing prepared by the New York State Data Center, New York State Department of Commerce.

Table 8b. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND BY RACE/ETHNICITY
OTSEGO COUNTY
1980

Race/ethnicity	Total	Age (years)			
		4 or younger	5-17	18-64	65+
Total	100.0	5.9	18.7	61.1	14.3
White	100.0	5.9	18.6	61.0	14.5
Nonwhite	100.0	6.8	14.6	71.8	6.8
Black	100.0	6.8	14.6	71.8	6.8
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut.	100.0	5.7	18.6	70.0	5.7
Asian or Pacific Islander	100.0	5.8	25.1	63.3	5.8
Other	100.0	9.4	24.4	62.5	3.7
Spanish origin	100.0	8.5	20.8	63.5	7.2

III. The Labor Market

Introduction

The labor market is a setting in which employers offer to purchase services from individuals wishing to sell them. The market supply or labor force includes people currently holding jobs--the employed, and those out of work but seeking jobs--the unemployed. Labor market demand involves the labor requirements of employers. Although the labor force consists primarily of persons who work for others, it also includes the self-employed, such as doctors, lawyers, farmers, and other small-business people who work independently by providing goods and services directly to consumers. Individuals not counted in the labor force include persons under 16 years of age, all retired persons, nonworking students, those performing nonremunerative household and other services, discouraged jobseekers who have given up job hunting, and institutionalized persons.

The size and character of the total labor force depends on a number of economic, social, and political factors. The most important determinants include levels of and rates of change in technology, productivity, economic activity, market patterns, population, worker skills and stability of the labor supply, cultural and social norms, and governmental policies.

The Labor Force

A concept used to show the relationship between the number of persons in the labor force and the population is the labor force participation rate (LFPR), a percentage measuring the proportion of the population entered in the labor force. For example, if an area has 10,000 people 16 years old or older and 5,800 of these persons are counted as either employed or unemployed, then the LFPR is 58 percent.

Over the period, 1970 to 1980, the composition of Otsego County's labor force shifted as a result of significant differences in the trends of the LFPR of men and women. The labor force participation of women increased 5.1 percentage points (from 40.2 percent in 1970 to 45.3 percent in 1980) while the male LFPR declined 3.8 percentage points (from 68.8 percent in 1970 to 65.0 percent in 1980). The overall LFPR rose 1.2 percentage points as the growth in the female LFPR overshadowed the decline in the male LFPR. In general, the changes in the LFPR of men and women in the County followed statewide and national trends. The LFPR of men residing in the county fell more than it did for men nationwide but less than for men statewide. The female LFPR increased by a lesser amount in the county than it did in either the state or the nation. Table 9 presents the 1970 and 1980 LFPR for Otsego County, New York State and the United States.

Table 9. LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY SEX
OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE
AND THE UNITED STATES, 1970 AND 1980

Sex	1970	1980	Change from 1970 to 1980
		Otsego County	
Overall	53.3	54.5	+1.2
Male	68.8	65.0	-3.8
Female	40.2	45.3	+5.1
		New York State	
Overall	57.9	59.3	+1.4
Male	77.1	72.4	-4.7
Female	41.3	48.2	+6.9
		United States	
Overall	59.9	63.6	+3.7
Male	79.7	77.4	-2.3
Female	43.3	51.3	+8.0

The resident labor force of Otsego County has expanded since 1974, reflecting the higher overall labor force participation rate, a large increase in the working age population (16 years of age and older) and a gradual growth in the local economy. Table 10 shows the trends in the labor force and its components (employed and unemployed) over the period 1974 to 1981.

Table 10. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE STATUS
OTSEGO COUNTY
1974 - 1981

Labor force status	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Civilian labor force, total	24.1	24.7	25.2	26.4	26.0	26.4	26.8	26.7
Employment	22.7	22.7	22.8	24.2	24.3	24.7	25.0	25.1
Unemployment	1.4	2.0	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6
Unemployment rate	5.8	8.1	9.4	8.1	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.1

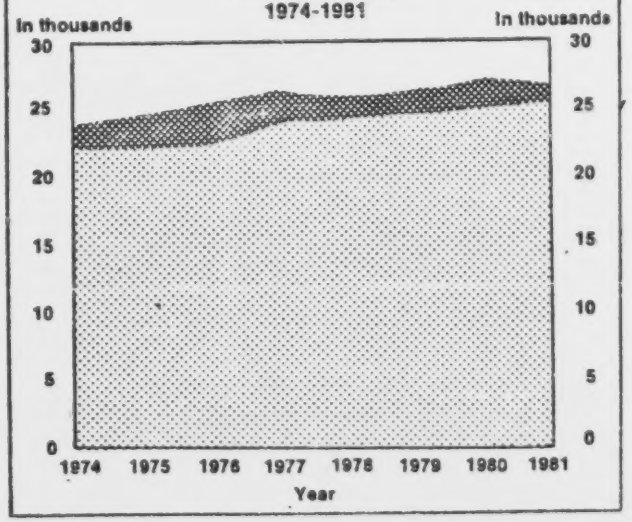
NOTE: The sum of employment and unemployment may not equal the labor force total due to rounding.

From 1974 to 1981, Otsego County's civilian labor force grew 10.8 percent, an annual average growth rate of 1.5 percent. By comparison, the nation's labor force grew an average of 2.3 percent a year while the state's labor force growth averaged 0.9 percent annually. The rate of growth in the county's labor force actually varied considerably over the period as the national economy drifted in and out of recessions and impacted on business activity in the county. During the 1973-75 recession, Otsego County's labor force grew at a moderate 2.5 percent annually. The economy of the county, however, was unable to absorb this increase and a substantial jump in the number of unemployed persons resulted. Unemployment continued to worsen in the county in 1976 even though the nationwide economy had started to recover. Otsego County's labor market finally started to improve in 1977. During that year, the labor force grew a healthy 4.8 percent, mostly on the strength of a surge in the number of persons holding jobs. Economic conditions continued to improve in 1978 even though the labor force dipped 1.5 percent--employment climbed while unemployment dropped. In 1979 and 1980, labor force growth in the county averaged 1.5 percent annually as the economic outlook remained stable. In 1982, as the national economy drifted out of a minor recession, the county's labor force slumped 0.4 percent.

As the labor force trends seem to indicate, Otsego County's economy does not react to expansionary and recessionary forces at the same time as the national economy does. This is because of the unique mix of industries that make up the economy in Otsego County. In general, economic downturns and recoveries in Otsego County lagged behind those of the nation.

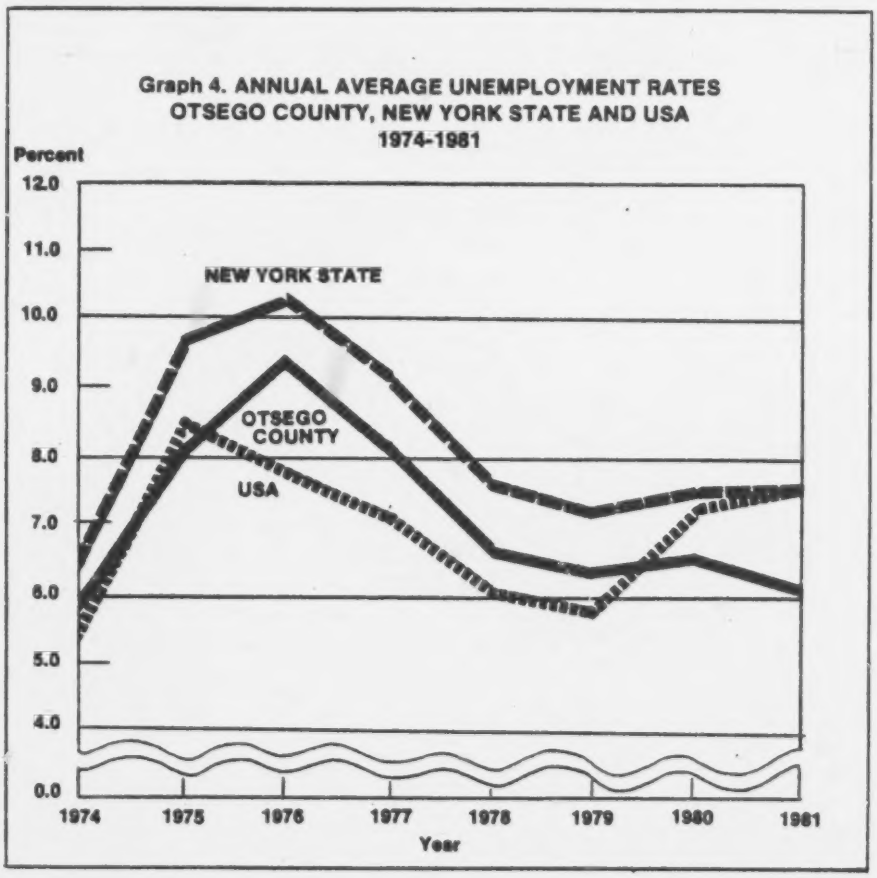
Changes in economic activity usually do not trigger immediate changes in employment and unemployment statistics. The effect of recovery on the unemployed is frequently delayed. Many firms attempt to increase production before recalling laid off employees or hiring new workers. The number of Otsego County residents who were seeking work but were unable to find it remained high even after the economy had begun to improve from the 1973-1975 recession. The tally of unemployed peaked in 1976 before the momentum of the recovery stimulated significant hiring and recalls. Graph 3 illustrates the growth trends in Otsego County's labor force and its components during the period 1974-1981.

Graph 3. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
OTSEGO COUNTY
1974-1981

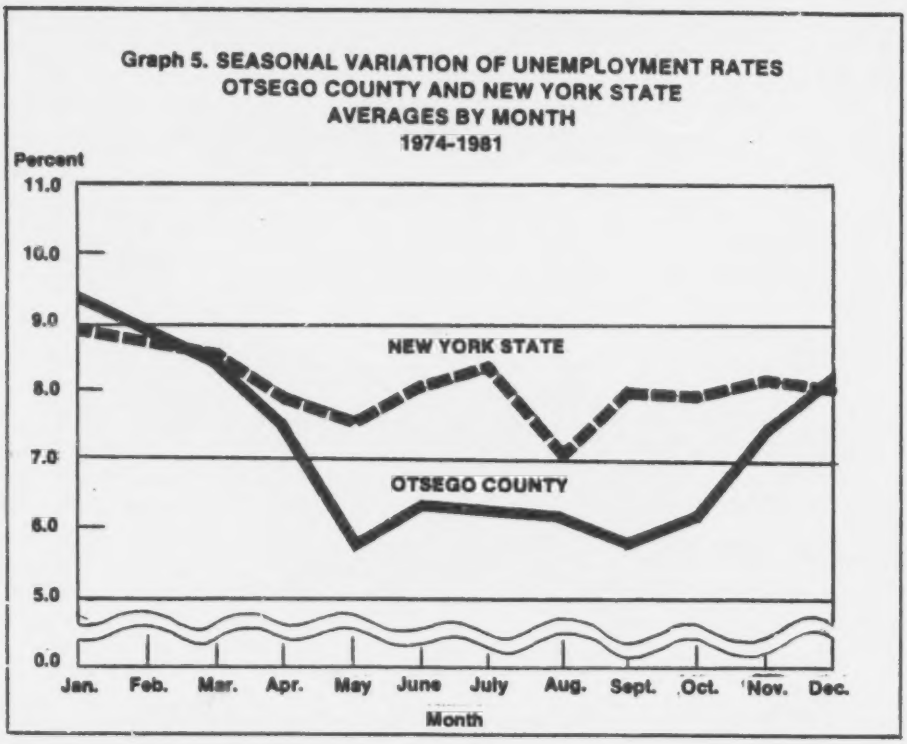


Employment
Unemployment
Labor force

During the 1974-1981 period, Otsego County's unemployment rate generally followed swings in the statewide rate but lagged behind changes in the national rate. Graph 4 illustrates the trends in annual unemployment rates for Otsego County, New York State, and the United States during the period 1974-1981.



Monthly jobless rates, unlike annual average unemployment rates, are responsive to seasonal factors such as the weather and school openings and closings. Seasonal fluctuations were much more pronounced for Otsego County than for New York State. In both the county and the state, unemployment rates were usually highest in mid-winter and lowest in mid-to-late summer when the agricultural, construction, recreation, and tourism industries were operating at peak levels. Graph 5 depicts the seasonal trends in the unemployment rates of Otsego County and New York State over the period 1974 to 1981.



Basic Economic Sectors and Employment Composition in Otsego County

A local economy, such as that in Otsego County, develops specific relationships with the economy of the state and the nation. Specialization occurs for nearly every local area, an economic process in which certain industries become relatively more important for the local area than for the state or nation as a whole. For instance, the Detroit area in Michigan is well known for its specialization in motor vehicles production. The economic base of an area is the collection of those industries in which an area specializes.

The labor force in Otsego County is primarily employed or seeking employment in nonagricultural industries. The industrial composition of nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Otsego County, New York State, and the nation (averaged for the period 1979-1981) are compared in Table 11.

Table 11. NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE, AND THE UNITED STATES AVERAGED FOR 1979-1981

(Percent distribution

Industrial sector	Otsego County	New York State	United States
Nonagricultural employment, total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Manufacturing, total	10.3	20.2	22.7
Durable goods	4.5	10.4	13.6
Nondurable goods	5.8	9.8	9.0
Nonmanufacturing, total	89.7	79.8	77.3
Construction	1.9	2.9	4.8
Transportation, communication and utilities	4.5	6.0	5.7
Wholesale and retail trade	23.1	20.3	22.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3.8	8.7	5.7
Services and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing	29.5	23.8	20.8
Government	26.9	18.1	17.7

Otsego County's economic base centered on service and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing industries and government during the period 1979 to 1981. Firms involved in service and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing activities accounted for 29.5 percent of the nonagricultural jobs in the county. At the state and national level, however, service and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing firms employed only 23.8 percent and 20.8 percent of nonagricultural jobs, respectively. Government employed 26.9 percent of the county's nonagricultural workforce compared to only 18.1 percent in the state and 17.7 percent in the nation. Major employers in Otsego County are listed below. Durable goods manufacturing firms are identified with an asterisk.

Firms	Product
Astrocom Electronics, Inc.*	terminal communications and plastics products
Aurelia Osborne Fox Memorial Society (hospital)	health care
F.N. Burt Company, Inc.	set-up boxes
Corning Glass Works*	glass ceramic architectural
Custom Electronics, Inc.*	electronic capacitors
Dart and Kraft, Inc. (Breakstone Food Division)	fluid milk
Hartwick College	education
Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital	health care
Mold-A-Matic Corp.*	custom molding
New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Co.	insurance
New York State Electric & Gas Corp.	utilities
Oneonta City	government
Oneonta City Schools	education
Oneonta Department Store, Inc.	retail sales
Oneonta Dress Company, Inc.	junior and misses' dresses

Firms	Product
Otsego-Unadilla Central School District	education
Otsego County	government
Ottoway Newspapers, Inc.	newspapers
State University College at Oneonta	education
Susquehanna Motel Corp.	lodging
Wilber National Bank	finance

Changes in the Distribution of Employment by Industrial Section in Otsego County

The industrial composition of the nation changes over time as the rate of growth varies from industry to industry. Industrial growth is a function of many factors such as interest rates, product development, foreign competition, government policies, and social trends and each industry reacts differently to these factors. The rate of growth of individual firms within each industry may also vary from state to state or even from county to county depending on the competitiveness of each area with regard to other areas having the same industry. Table 12 presents growth rates by industry for Otsego County, New York State, and the nation over the period between three-year average 1970-72 to three-year average 1979-81.

Table 12. GROWTH RATES OF EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
OTSEGO COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE, AND THE UNITED STATES
THREE-YEAR AVERAGE 1970-1972
TO THREE-YEAR AVERAGE 1979-1981

Industrial sector	Otsego County	New York State	United States
Nonagricultural employment, total	+17.3	+2.2	+26.0
Manufacturing, total	+6.7	-12.5	+7.8
Durable goods	+16.7	-3.6	+12.7
Nondurable goods	0.0	-20.4	+1.0
Nonmanufacturing, total	+18.6	+6.7	+32.6
Construction	-40.0	-22.9	+17.8
Transportation, communication and utilities	-30.0	-10.4	+14.0
Wholesale and retail trade	+24.1	+2.1	+32.3
Finance, insurance, and real estate	+20.0	+6.4	+36.6
Services and miscellaneous, nonmanufacturing	+58.6	+24.0	+51.2
Government	+5.0	+6.0	+24.5

The rate of growth of Otsego County's nonfarm employment exceeded the state's but lagged behind that of the nation over the period. Employment growth in the county was dominated by an expansion in the nonmanufacturing sector. Employment growth within nonmanufacturing varied considerably from industry to industry, ranging from a gain of 58.6 percent among service and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing firms to a loss of 40.0 percent in construction. Wholesale and retail trade and finance, insurance, and real estate experienced moderate growth of 24.1 percent and 20.0 percent, respectively, while government employment only inched up 5.0 percent during the period. Employment in transportation, communication, and utilities industries plummeted 30.0 percent over the period.

Manufacturing employment grew 6.7 percent in the period. This growth was entirely attributable to a 16.7 percent increase in employment involved in durable goods manufacturing. Employment in firms producing nondurable goods remained unchanged.

As mentioned previously, changes in the industrial composition of an area result from varying growth rates of industrial divisions within the area. Even if all industries in the area grew over the period, their relative shares of total employment would change unless the growth rates of all industries were identical. Since the number of workers employed in the nonmanufacturing sector grew at a much faster rate than it did in the manufacturing sector, the percentage of total employment working in nonmanufacturing firms increased while it decreased a corresponding amount in manufacturing businesses. Among nonmanufacturing industries, the largest proportional gain occurred in services and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing. The change in the distribution of Otsego County's nonfarm workforce is summarized in Table 13.

Table 13. CHANGES IN THE PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY FOR THREE-YEAR AVERAGES 1970-1972 TO 1979-1981 OTSEGO COUNTY

Industrial sector	Distribution of industrial employment averaged for 1970-1972	Distribution of industrial employment averaged for 1979-1981	Change from 1970-1972 to 1979-1981
Nonagricultural employment, total	13,300	15,600	+2,300
Nonagricultural industries, total	100.0	100.0	-
Manufacturing, total	11.3	10.3	-1.0
Durable goods	4.5	4.5	-
Nondurable goods	6.8	5.8	-1.0
Nonmanufacturing, total	88.7	89.7	+1.0
Construction	3.7	1.9	-1.8
Transportation, communication and utilities	7.5	4.5	-3.0
Wholesale and retail trade	21.8	23.1	+1.3
Finance, insurance, and real estate	3.8	3.8	-
Services and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing	21.7	29.5	+7.7
Government	30.1	26.9	-3.2

Labor Market Stability in Otsego County

The stability of a local labor market is an important factor in the vitality and growth of a local economy. Stability is influenced by several variables which act on labor supply and demand. Measures of the impact of these variables on labor market stability include seasonal and cyclical fluctuations in employment (previously mentioned), as well as labor turnover, industrial conflicts and industrial expansions and contractions.

Labor Turnover

Labor turnover is an economic indicator and an important tool for planning purposes. Accessions (new hires and recalls) and separations (quits and layoffs), expressed as rates per 100 employees, are indications of worker movement both into and out of manufacturing industries.

During a short-run drop in demand for manufactured products, employers may first reduce the number of hours in the workweek. However, during long periods of decreased demand, workers may be laid off. At such a time, manufacturing employees may be reluctant to leave their jobs in search of new opportunities. This is reflected by low quit rates.

On the other hand, when business picks up, new hires and recalls increase and layoffs decline; worker confidence is higher; and the number of voluntary quits is likely to increase.

Table 14 compares average accession and separation rates, by component, for Otsego County and New York State. These averages are based on a sample of 14 manufacturing firms.

Table 14. AVERAGE MONTHLY LABOR TURNOVER RATES OF MANUFACTURING FIRMS OTSEGO COUNTY AND NEW YORK STATE JANUARY 1981 TO DECEMBER 1981

(Per 100 employees)

Labor turnover component	Otsego County	New York State
Accession rates		
Total	4.8	3.6
New hires	3.5	1.9
Recalls	1.1	1.4
Separation rates		
Total	3.5	3.7
Quits	1.8	1.1
Layoffs	0.8	1.9

NOTE: Total accessions also include accessions other than new hires and recalls, e.g., company transfers. Total separations also include separations other than quits and layoffs, e.g., retirements.

Labor turnover in manufacturing industries was significantly more vigorous in the County than it was statewide. Otsego County's accession rate of 4.8 per 100 employees was much higher than the statewide accession rate of 3.6 per 100 employees. This occurred because manufacturing firms in the county hired new employees at almost twice the rate of manufacturing firms statewide. The recall rate in the County, however, was slightly less than it was statewide.

Although the overall separation rates for the county and the state were nearly identical, the rates among the subcategories--quits and layoffs--were quite different. Layoffs occurred in the county sample at less than one-half the rate of layoffs statewide. Quits, on the other hand, were much more frequent in the county than they were in the state as a whole.

Industrial Conflicts

There were no strikes in Otsego County during the period January 1, 1981 and December 31, 1982.

Employment Effects of Industrial Expansions and Contractions

From January 1979 through March 1982 several changes occurred in Otsego County's total employment as a result of industrial expansions and contractions. A gain of 215 jobs directly associated with industrial changes outweighed the reported loss of 124 jobs. The single largest increase in employment was a gain of 130 jobs at the Convenience Products Division of Riegal Textile Corporation in Oneonta. The shutdown of Titan Home Inc. in Richfield Springs resulted in the largest loss of jobs in the County--125. The direct employment effects of openings, expansions, closings, and contractions of major manufacturing firms in Otsego County during the period are shown in Table 15.

Table 15. DIRECT EMPLOYMENT CHANGES RESULTING FROM MAJOR FIRM EXPANSIONS AND CONTRACTIONS PLANNED, UNDERWAY, OR COMPLETED
OTSEGO COUNTY
JANUARY 1979-MARCH 1982

Firm name City Parent company	Nature of change	Direct employment gain or loss
Greenleaf Steelrule Die Corp. Schenevus	Addition to an existing facility	+25
Highway Equipment Co., Inc. Oneonta	New firm at an existing facility	+30
Tital Hanes Inc. Richfield Springs Champion Home Builders Co.	Complete closing of facility	-125
Medical Coaches Inc. Oneonta	Addition to an existing facility	+30
Convenience Products Div. Oneonta Riegel Textile Corp.	New firm in a new building	+130

SOURCE: New York State Department of Commerce.

IV. Income

Personal Income

Personal income statistics are important analytical measures for assessing the economy of a given area. This section presents a variety of personal income statistics related to Otsego County.

Total personal income is the income received by persons from all sources. This includes net labor and proprietors' income, property income and transfer payments. Table 16 presents personal income of Otsego County residents by source for 1974 and 1979.

Table 16. PERSONAL INCOME OF OTSEGO COUNTY RESIDENTS BY SOURCE
1974 - 1979

(In millions)

Source	1974	1979	Change 1974 to 1979		Percent of total	
			Net	Percent	1974	1979
Total personal income	278.9	386.0	107.1	38.4	100.0	100.0
Net labor and proprietors' income	172.9	236.4	63.5	36.7	62.0	61.2
Property income	59.1	77.4	18.3	31.0	21.2	20.1
Transfer payments	46.9	72.2	25.3	53.9	16.8	18.7

NOTE: Income figures listed in this table represent income received by county residents without regard to where it was earned.
SOURCE: New York State Department of Labor.

From 1974 to 1979 personal income in Otsego County climbed 38.4 percent. The share of personal income attributable to each income source changed during the 5-year period. This occurred because each income source grew at a different rate. The rate of growth of transfer payments was substantially greater than the growth rates of labor and proprietors' income and property income.

In 1979, net labor and proprietors' income accounted for 61.2 percent of the total personal income of Otsego County residents compared to 68.2 percent of personal income in the state. Transfer payments provided 18.7 percent of personal income in Otsego County and property income added 20.1 percent. Transfer payments for the state, meanwhile, represented 15.0 percent of total personal income and property income was reported at 16.8 percent of the total.

Labor and Proprietors' Income

Service industries, the largest source of labor and proprietors' income in Otsego County, accounted for 26.3 percent of the total in 1979. Government employers were the second largest source, adding 22.0 percent. Graph 6 illustrates the proportion of total Otsego County labor and proprietors' income earned in each industry division in 1979.

Income derived from agriculture, service industries, and government accounted for a significantly larger proportion of labor and proprietors' income in the county than in the state as a whole. All other industry divisions provided roughly the same percentage share or less in the county than statewide. Table 17 compares 1979 levels and percent distributions of labor and proprietors' income earned in Otsego County with that earned in the state, for each industry division.

Graph 6. LABOR AND PROPRIETORS' INCOME BY INDUSTRY OTSEGO COUNTY 1979 (PERCENT DISTRIBUTION)

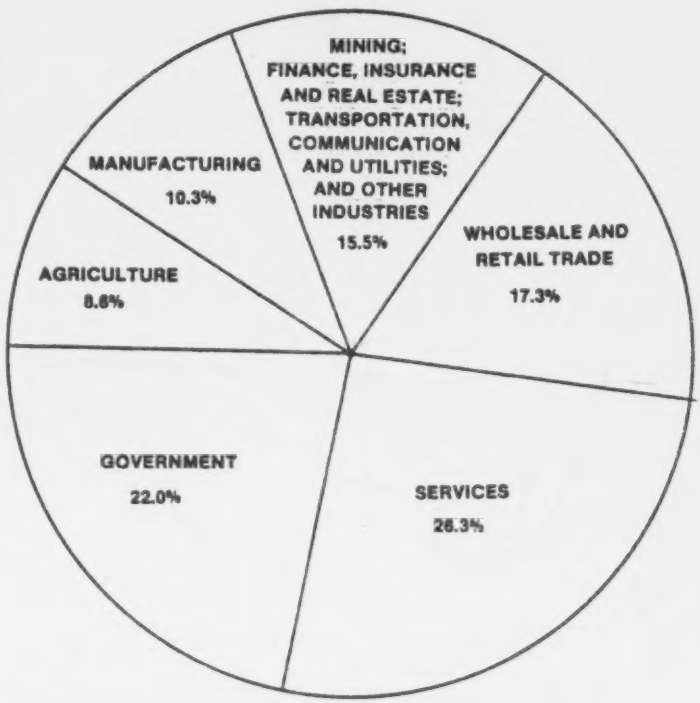


Table 17. LEVELS AND DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR AND PROPRIETORS' INCOME EARNED IN OTSEGO COUNTY AND NEW YORK STATE, BY INDUSTRY 1979

($ millions)

Industry	Otsego County	Percent	New York State	Percent
Total	204.5	100.0	122,459.1	100.0
Agriculture	17.5	8.6	675.8	0.5
Manufacturing	21.0	10.3	28,520.0	23.3
Mining	0.4	0.2	211.5	0.2
Construction	6.7	3.3	4,286.1	3.5
Wholesale and retail trade	35.4	17.3	19,543.6	16.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	9.5	4.6	12,028.0	9.8
Transportation, communication and utilities	14.3	7.0	11,015.4	9.0
Services	53.8	26.3	26,811.5	21.9
Other	0.9	0.4	339.3	0.3
Government	45.0	22.0	19,027.9	15.5

NOTE: Income figures in the table are by place of work without regard to the residence location of the workers.

SOURCE: New York State Department of Commerce.

In 1979, Otsego County's labor and proprietors' income was $236.4 million when tallied by place of residence (see Table 16) and $204.5 million when recorded by place of work (see Table 17). This difference is an indication that a substantial number of Otsego County residents commute to jobs in neighboring counties. This represents an apparent expansion of the local labor market and is facilitated by an effective network of intercounty highways.

Per Capita Income

In 1980, per capita personal income in Otsego County was $7,162 and ranked 51st among the state's 62 counties. Per capita personal income for the state in 1980 was $10,252. Graph 7 presents the growth trends in per capita personal income in Otsego County and the state for the period 1970-1980. During the 10-year period, Otsego County's per capita income grew by 112.9 percent while the state figures increased by 118.4 percent.

Weekly Wages

Incomes from wages and salaries usually vary considerably from one industry to another. Among Otsego County industries whose employers are covered by the New York State Unemployment Insurance Program, firms engaged in providing transportation, communication, and utilities paid the highest weekly wages during the period 1976 to 1981. Agriculture and retail trade were generally the lowest paying industries during the period. Table 18 presents the average weekly wages paid by Otsego County employers whose employees were covered by unemployment insurance during the period 1975-1981.

Graph 7. PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME
OTSEGO COUNTY AND NEW YORK STATE
1970-1980

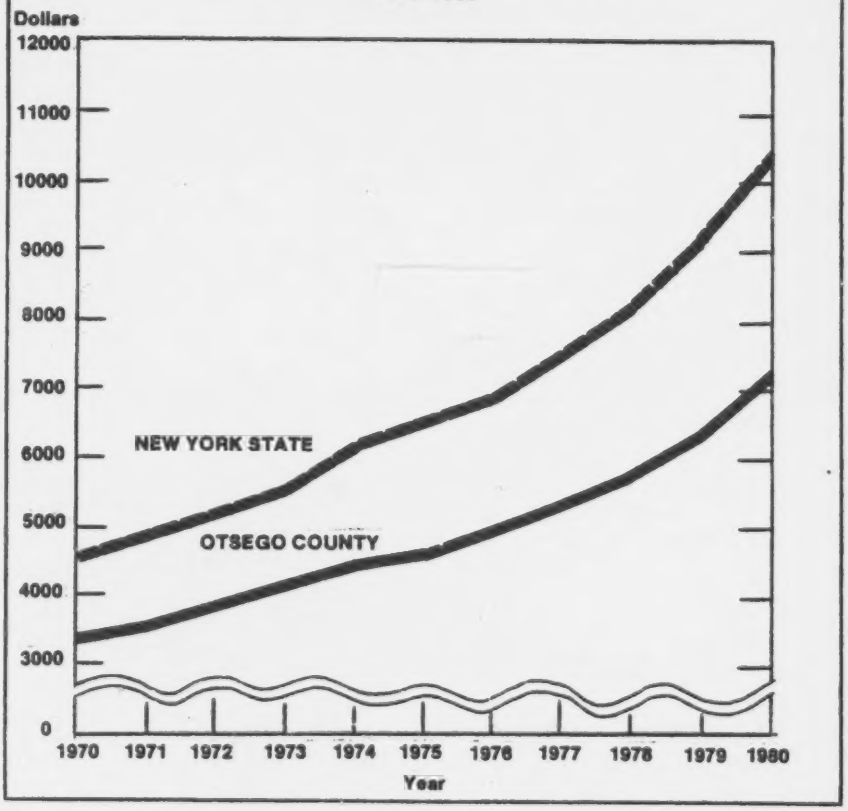


Table 18. AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES PAID TO EMPLOYEES
COVERED BY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP
OTSEGO COUNTY
1975 - 1981

Industry	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Total	152	161	171	179	185	198	210
Agriculture	86	105	98	105	120	140	152
Mining	158	172	196	191	209	206	215
Construction	151	152	230	274	200	192	223
Manufacturing-durable goods	158	173	194	211	224	244	252
Manufacturing-nondurable goods	139	145	152	159	172	187	216
Transportation, communication and utilities	211	263	287	330	294	322	374
Wholesale trade	160	166	174	182	200	211	233
Retail trade	112	117	117	128	133	145	152
Finance, insurance and real estate	154	162	173	185	199	219	232
Service	167	175	181	187	200	206	216
Government	230	244	256	155	161	183	195

NOTE: Extension of Unemployment Insurance coverage to local government in 1978 increased the number of lower paying jobs in the government category of Table 18 and resulted in a large drop in the average weekly wages. In reality, the actual weekly wages in the government sector did not experience the drop indicated in the table.

Income Guidelines

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) annually releases data stipulating the incomes which define "poverty levels." Likewise, the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) each year establishes Lower Living Standard Income Levels (LLSIL). These income criteria are used to determine eligibility for various state and federally funded programs.

Table 19 presents the 1983 OMB poverty guidelines and the USDOL 70, 85, and 100 percent LLSIL--according to family size--for Otsego County. Table 20 gives projections of the number of persons in the county expected to fall within the OMB and USDOL guidelines during 1982, based on family income criteria.

Table 19. OMB POVERTY GUIDELINES AND USDOL LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVELS BY FAMILY SIZE FOR OTSEGO COUNTY, 1983

Income level	1	2	3	4	5	6
Poverty level income						
Nonfarm family	4,680	6,220	7,760	9,300	10,840	12,380
Farm family	4,010	5,310	6,610	7,910	9,210	10,510
Lower Living Standard Income Levels						
70 percent LLSIL	3,820	6,260	8,600	10,610	12,520	14,640
85 percent LLSIL	4,640	7,600	10,440	12,890	15,210	17,780
100 percent LLSIL	5,460	8,940	12,280	15,160	17,890	20,920

NOTE: To compute the poverty level for family units with more than 6 members, add $1,540 for each additional member in a nonfarm family and $1,300 for each additional member in a farm family.

To compute the various LLSILS for families with more than six persons, use the following formula:

70 percent LLSIL - add to the amount for a family of six $2,120 for each additional person

80 percent LLSIL - add to the amount for a family of six $2,570 for each additional person

100 percent LLSIL - add to the amount for a family of six $3,030 for each additional person.

Table 20. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHOSE FAMILY INCOME IS LESS THAN OMB POVERTY INCOME LEVELS OR USDOL 70, 85, AND 100 PERCENT LLSIL, OTSEGO COUNTY 1983 PROJECTIONS

Income level	Number of individuals
Poverty level income	6,400
Lower Living Standard Income Levels	
70 percent LLSIL	8,000
85 percent LLSIL	10,300
100 percent LLSIL	13,300

For additional income related statistics for Otsego County residents, refer to Appendix V.

V. Social Program Statistics

Since the 1930's, social programs have grown in both number and magnitude. A myriad of services are now available to children, the elderly, the unemployed and the handicapped.

During the 1981 calendar year, an average of 1,995 Otsego County residents received public assistance payments each month. Monthly benefit payments for the county averaged $109.46 per recipient compared to $133.04 per recipient for New York State.

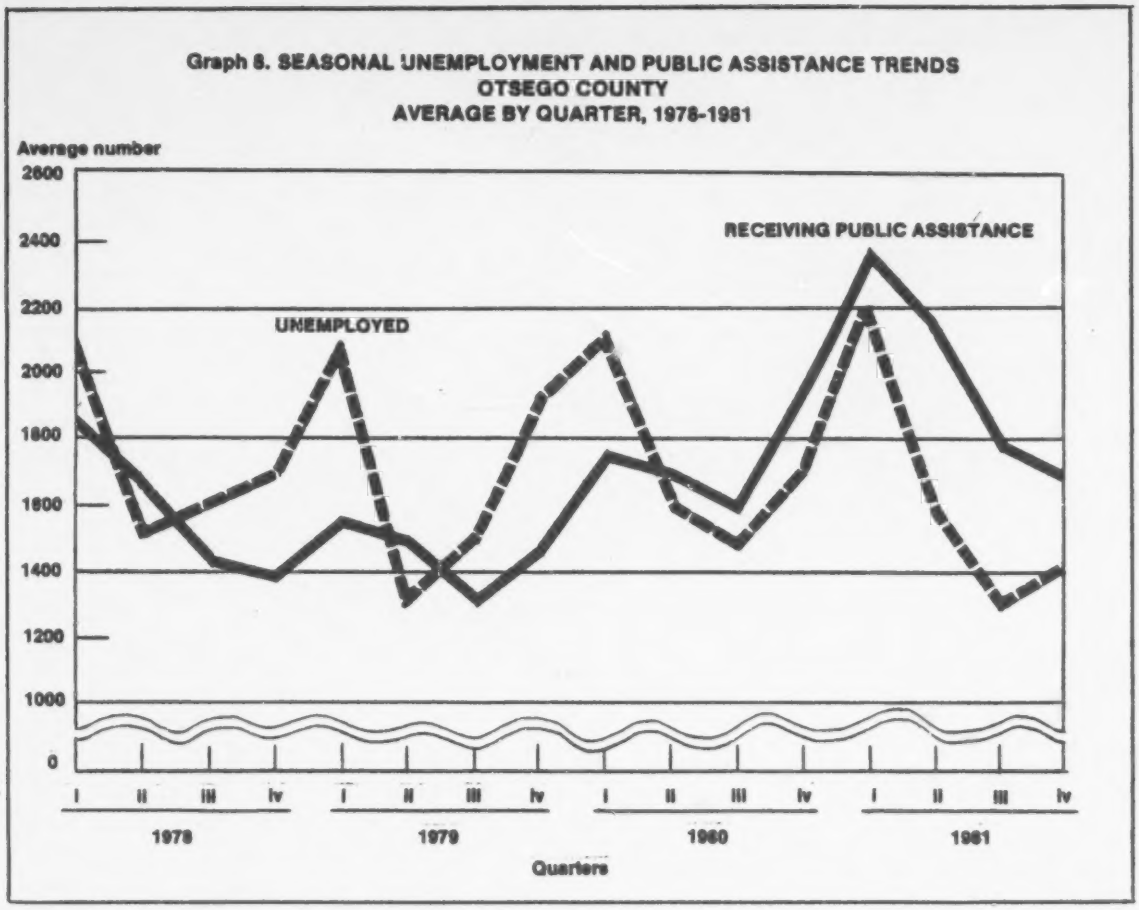
Of the total number of individuals receiving public assistance payments each month during 1981, an average of 75.3 percent were beneficiaries of the Aid to Dependent Children Program, 13.4 percent received Home Relief payments, and 11.3 percent were recipients of Emergency Assistance to Families. Table 21 presents the monthly distribution of public assistance recipients by program in Otsego County during 1981.

Table 21. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS BY PROGRAM
OTSEGO COUNTY
1981

Month	Total	Aid to Dependent Children	Home Relief	Emergency Assistance to Families	Emergency Assistance to Adults
January	2,193	1,548	242	402	1
February	2,512	1,591	275	643	3
March	2,399	1,590	272	533	4
April	2,344	1,543	265	533	3
May	1,982	1,520	289	173	-
June	2,086	1,495	265	324	2
July	1,802	1,526	246	29	1
August	1,777	1,498	248	31	-
September	1,757	1,479	264	13	1
October	1,706	1,429	268	9	-
November	1,668	1,372	289	7	-
December	1,725	1,432	286	7	-
12-month average	1,995	1,502	267	225	1

SOURCE: New York State Department of Social Services.

Frequently a relationship exists between the trends in unemployment and in the number of persons receiving public assistance. This relationship becomes apparent when fluctuations in total unemployment arising from changing seasons or business cycles seem to roughly parallel public assistance trends. Usually as unemployment increases, some families affected will seek public assistance. Others, while not considered unemployed, may suffer a large enough loss of income to qualify for public assistance. Therefore, the seasonal or cyclical factors that cause the number of unemployed to fluctuate indirectly affect the demand for public assistance. Graph 8 illustrates levels and trends for both total unemployment and public assistance activities in Otsego County for 1978-1981.



Although many public assistance recipients are jobless workers, a direct comparison of the number of persons receiving public assistance and the number of unemployed individuals should not be made since dependent children, who comprise the single largest group of public assistance beneficiaries, are not usually counted in the labor force. A comparison of the trends in the number who are unemployed or receiving welfare benefits, however, is useful.

The seasonal fluctuations in the number of public assistance recipients and the unemployed are clearly visable in the graph. Normally both series peak during the first quarter of the calendar year and reach a low point during summer months.

VI. Education

Public and Nonpublic School Enrollment

Fall 1981 enrollments in public and nonpublic schools in Otsego County totaled 9,742. Students attending grades K-6 accounted for 50.5 percent of the total while grades 7-12 enrolled the remaining 49.5 percent. Statewide, 50.1 percent of 1981-82 enrollments were at the elementary level and 49.9 percent were at the secondary level.

Public schools accounted for 96.7 percent of total school enrollments in Otsego County compared to 82.8 percent for the state. Table 22 presents the distribution of students in Otsego County according to category of school enrollment.

Table 22. PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT
OTSEGO COUNTY
1981-82

School designation	Elementary level grades K-6	Secondary level grades 7-12	Total
Total	4,923	4,819	9,742
Public	4,707	4,710	9,417
Nonpublic	216	109	325

NOTE: Includes ungraded students.
SOURCE: New York State Education Department.

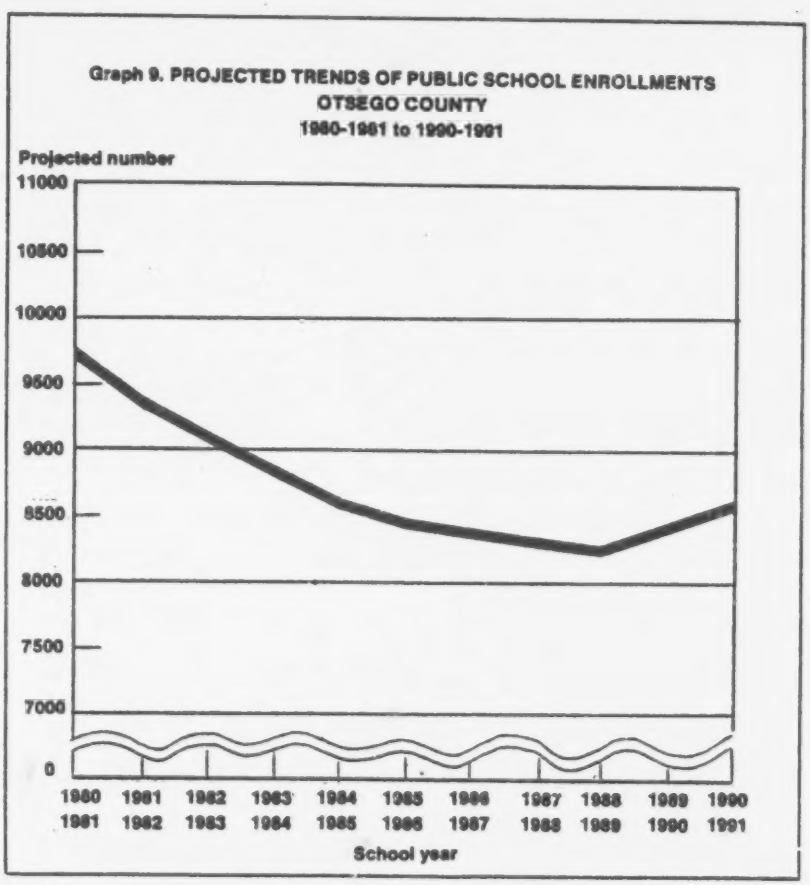
Fewer students enrolled in schools in New York State and Otsego County during the 1980-81 school year than during the preceding year. Although total enrollments fell at a significantly faster rate statewide than in the county, public school enrollments declined more rapidly in the county than in the state. Nonpublic school enrollments in the county were particularly noteworthy, increasing 9.1 percent while statewide enrollments in nonpublic schools dropped 10.3 percent from 1980-81 school year levels. Table 23 provides the enrollment levels of schools in New York State and Otsego County during the 1980-81 and 1981-82 school years and the percent change in enrollments in public and nonpublic schools in the state and county.

Table 23. ENROLLMENT CHANGES, PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS
NEW YORK STATE AND OTSEGO COUNTY
SCHOOL YEARS: 1980-81 AND 1981-82

Area	Enrollment grade K-12		Percent change
	1980-81	1981-82	
New York State	3,469,209	3,317,023	-4.4
Public	2,860,371	2,770,640	-3.1
Nonpublic	608,838	546,383	-10.3
Otsego County	10,032	9,742	-2.9
Public	9,734	9,417	-3.3
Nonpublic	298	325	+9.1

NOTE: Includes ungraded students.
SOURCE: New York State Education Department.

Public school enrollments in the county are projected to continue declining until 1989 and then turn up slightly during the 1989-90 and 1990-91 school years. During the 10-year period following the 1980-81 school year, enrollments are expected to drop 12.2 percent from 9,734 to 8,542 students. Graph 9 illustrates projected trends of public school enrollments in Otsego County during the period 1980 to 1991.



There were 777 students who graduated from Otsego County high schools in 1981. Of this number, 57.8 percent planned to continue their education, compared to 69.4 percent statewide. The percentage of Otsego County graduates seeking employment or entering the military exceeded the proportion of graduates making these choices statewide.

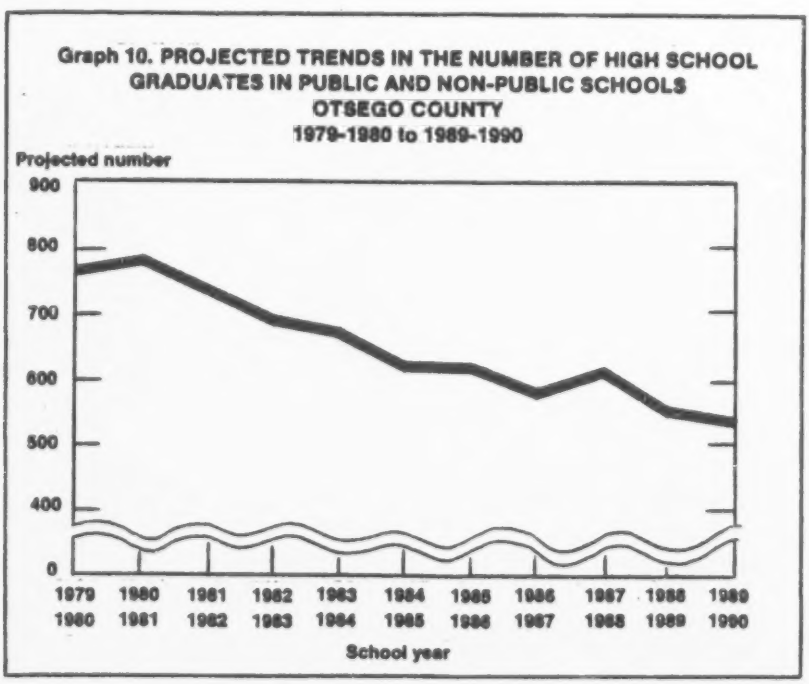
Table 24 presents the intentions of 1981 public and nonpublic high school graduates in New York State and Otsego County. The data reflect the status of graduates in the fall of 1981.

Table 24. EDUCATION OR EMPLOYMENT INTENTIONS OF 1981
PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES
NEW YORK STATE AND OTSEGO COUNTY
FALL 1981

Area	High school graduates	Percent distribution					
		Entering post-secondary education			Employment	Military service	Other
		4-year	2-year	Other			
New York State	230,237	41.2	24.1	4.1	20.8	3.7	6.0
Public	198,465	37.3	25.6	3.9	22.6	4.1	6.5
Nonpublic	31,772	65.8	15.1	5.8	9.5	1.0	2.7
Otsego County	777	27.9	23.7	6.2	26.6	9.8	5.8
Public	777	27.9	23.7	6.2	26.6	9.8	5.8
Nonpublic	0	-	-	-	-	-	-

SOURCE: New York State Education Department.

The size of Otsego County's high school graduating class is projected to continue dropping through the 1986-87 school year. The number of new graduates is expected to edge up slightly in 1988 and then resume the declining trend in 1989 and 1990. Graph 10 illustrates the projected trends in the number of graduating seniors in Otsego County over the period 1979 to 1990.



During the 1981-82 school year, 98.6 percent of the student population in Otsego County was white. The remaining 1.4 percent were distributed among racial or ethnic categories as follows: 0.6 percent black, 0.3 percent Hispanic, and 0.5 percent American Indian, Eskimo, Asian or Pacific Islander. The highest concentration of minority students were reported in the Oneonta School District. Table 25 presents the racial distribution of students in each school district in the county during the 1981-82 school year.

Table 25. PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS BY RACE/ETHNIC ORIGIN OTSEGO COUNTY 1981 - 1982

School district	Black (not Hispanic)	Hispanic	American Indian, Eskimo, Asian/Pacific Islander	White (not Hispanic)
Total	0.6	0.3	0.5	98.6
Cherry Valley	-	-	-	100.0
Cooperstown	0.2	0.3	0.5	99.0
Edmeston	-	0.6	-	99.4
Gilbertsville	-	1.4	0.7	97.9
Laurens	-	-	-	100.0
Milford	-	2.0	-	98.0
Morris	0.2	-	-	99.8
Oneonta	2.1	0.2	1.2	96.5
Richfield Springs	0.1	-	0.5	99.4
Schenevus	0.2	-	-	99.8
Springfield	-	0.4	-	99.6
Unatego	0.8	-	0.6	98.6
Worcester	-	-	-	100.0

SOURCE: New York State Education Department.

Vocational Education

Several vocational education programs are available to residents of Otsego County. These are sponsored by the Greene #2-Delaware-Schoharie-Otsego Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES). These programs are listed below:

Educational Institution	Program
Greene #2-Delaware-Schoharie-Otsego BOCES Otsego County Area Occupational Center P.O. Box 57 Milford, New York 13807	Agriculture Education agricultural mechanics conservation Health Occupations Education nursing, licensed practical other health occupations Business and office education stenographic-secretarial Trade, Industrial, Service Education other automotive construction-maintenance trade quantity food occupations

APPENDIX I

Occupational Supply and Demand

The New York State Job Service maintains records of the jobseekers and employers it serves. These statistics can indicate the general labor supply/demand relationships of many occupations. Table 26 presents a list of occupations for which Job Service offices located in Otsego County had at least five applicants or openings during the period October 1, 1981 to September 30, 1982 (Fiscal Year 1982). Included in the table are counts of the job applicants and openings for each occupation, the ratio of applicants-to-openings, and the percentage of job openings that the Job Service successfully placed jobseekers into. The ratio of applicants available to job openings received (A/O) can be a measure of the balance between labor supply and demand for occupations. A high ratio of applicants-to-openings in a specific occupation indicates an oversupply of labor and usually results in intense competition among job hunters. A low A/O ratio suggests more favorable job opportunities. Jobs filled as a percent of job openings received is a general indication of the skill adequacy of the Job Service applicants or a sign of the desirability of the job openings. Typically, occupations in which job openings are easily filled have a sufficient pool of labor with skill levels satisfying employer requirements.

Using the A/O ratio and the percentages of jobs filled, the reader may draw useful conclusions regarding the labor supply/demand relationships of specific occupations. The following are four suggested categories in which many of the occupations in Table 26 may be classified.

Occupational Categories Based on Various Supply/Demand Relationships

1) Low A/O ratios and a high percentage of vacancies filled

   In this case supply does not overwhelm demand and applicants in these occupations find jobs easily.

   Example - Bus Attendant

2) High A/O ratios and a low percentage of vacancies filled

   Job Service applicants may not have suitable skills for these jobs. Presumably, employers are able to find people to work in these occupations from sources other than the Job Service.

   Example - Carpenter

3) High A/O ratios and a high percentage of vacancies filled

   For these occupations, there are many qualified applicants for few job openings.

   Example - Management Trainee

4) Applicants available but no job openings received

   The state Job Service has not received job orders for these occupations. This is either an indication of negligible demand for labor in these occupations or that employers with job openings in these occupations are choosing to use other recruiting practices.

   Example - Truck Driver, Light

Table 26. JOB OPENINGS AND APPLICANTS AVAILABLE FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS AND OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS
OTSEGO COUNTY
OCTOBER 1, 1981 - SEPTEMBER 30, 1982

Occupation	Total registered applicants available	Openings received during period	Ratio of applicants to openings	Percent of openings filled during period
Occupational groups, total	4,019	675	6.0	90.1
Professional, technical and managerial	505	47	10.7	70.2
Clerical and sales	849	166	5.1	91.0
Services	927	186	5.0	94.1
Farming, fishery, and forestry	164	29	5.7	86.2
Processing	103	34	3.0	100.0
Machine trades	372	31	12.0	83.9
Benchwork	258	49	5.3	81.6
Structural work	526	54	9.7	88.9
Miscellaneous	436	79	5.5	96.2
Selected Occupations				
Professional, Technical, and Managerial				
Electronics technician	8	2	4.0	100.0
Surveyor assistant, instruments	5	1	5.0	100.0
Counselor	14	0	n.a.	n.a.
Nurse, general duty	9	3	3.0	100.0
Dental assistant	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Faculty member, college or university	10	3	3.3	0.0
Teacher, secondary school	41	3	13.7	66.7
Teacher, elementary school	42	0	n.a.	n.a.
Educational therapist	7	0	n.a.	n.a.
Instructor, vocational training	9	6	1.5	100.0
Teacher aide I	11	0	n.a.	n.a.
Teacher, music	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Purchasing agent	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Manager, sales	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Administrative assistant	16	0	n.a.	n.a.
Manager, department store	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Manager, parts	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Manager, retail store	33	0	n.a.	n.a.
Residence supervisor	11	8	1.4	100.0
Management trainee	20	1	20.0	100.0
Community organization worker	7	0	n.a.	n.a.
Clerical and Sales				
Social secretary	10	9	1.1	100.0
Secretary	37	8	4.6	75.0
Stenographer	14	8	1.8	100.0
Clerk-typist	36	6	6.0	100.0
Keypunch operator	5	1	5.0	100.0
Typist	9	4	2.3	100.0

Table 26. (continued)

Occupation	Total registered applicants available	Openings received during period	Ratio of applicants to openings	Percent of openings filled during period
Clerical and Sales (continued)				
Clerk, general	167	28	6.0	100.0
Bookkeeper I	31	3	10.3	100.0
Bookkeeper II	9	0	n.a.	n.a.
Teller	13	8	1.6	100.0
Cashier II	9	2	4.5	100.0
Cashier-checker	94	16	5.9	93.8
Computer operator	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Accounting clerk	18	4	4.5	100.0
Administrative clerk	36	4	9.0	50.0
Inventory clerk	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Shipping and receiving clerk	12	0	n.a.	n.a.
Stock clerk	44	5	8.8	100.0
Central office operator	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Receptionist	19	3	6.3	100.0
Teacher aide II	10	1	10.0	100.0
Salesperson, women's apparel and accessories	6	5	1.2	80.0
Sales representative, general merchandise	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Salesperson, general hardware	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Salesperson, general merchandise	38	1	38.0	0.0
Salesperson, jewelry	5	1	5.0	100.0
Sales clerk	44	2	22.0	100.0
Driver, sales route	10	1	10.0	100.0
Billposter	25	2	12.5	100.0
Services				
House worker, general	7	0	n.a.	n.a.
Child monitor	11	0	n.a.	n.a.
Caretaker	7	5	1.4	80.0
Day worker	19	0	n.a.	n.a.
Yard worker	7	5	1.4	100.0
Companion	12	3	4.0	100.0
Counter attendant, lunchroom	43	5	8.6	100.0
Waiter/waitress, bar	7	5	1.4	100.0
Waiter/waitress, formal	10	3	3.3	100.0
Waiter/waitress, informal	100	9	11.1	100.0
Counter attendant, cafeteria	18	6	3.0	100.0
Dining room attendant	6	3	2.0	33.0
Bartender	40	1	40.0	100.0
Chef	6	2	3.0	100.0
Cook, restaurant	95	8	11.9	100.0
Cook, short order	17	3	5.7	100.0
Cook, mess	11	5	2.2	100.0
Meat cutter	7	0	n.a.	n.a.
Kitchen helper	102	24	4.3	83.3

Table 26. (continued)

Occupation	Total registered applicants available	Openings received during period	Ratio of applicants to openings	Percent of openings filled during period
Services (continued)				
Housekeeper	5	1	5.0	100.0
Cleaner, hospital	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Cleaner, housekeeping	40	6	n.a.	n.a.
Bus attendant	3	5	0.6	100.0
Home attendant	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Psychiatric aide	7	2	3.5	100.0
Child-care attendant, school	11	2	5.5	100.0
Nurse aide	77	9	8.6	100.0
Orderly	5	2	2.5	100.0
Food-service worker, hosp.	10	5	2.0	100.0
Attendant, children's institution	6	2	3.0	100.0
Guard, security	24	8	3.0	100.0
Merchant patroller	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Cleaner, comm./inst.	69	23	3.0	91.3
Cleaner, industrial	15	4	3.8	100.0
Janitor	40	14	2.9	100.0
Farming, fishery, forestry				
Harvest worker, vegetable	7	8	0.9	87.5
Cemetary worker	21	2	10.5	100.0
Groundskeeper, indus./comm.	11	0	n.a.	n.a.
Groundskeeper, parks/grounds	10	0	n.a.	n.a.
Farmworker, livestock	6	2	3.0	100.0
Farmworker, dairy	59	10	5.9	80.0
Processing				
Injection-molding-machine operator	9	0	n.a.	n.a.
Injection-molding-machine tender	51	32	1.6	100.0
Machinist	12	0	n.a.	n.a.
Drill-press operator	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Production-machine tender	64	5	12.8	100.0
Punch-press operator I	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Machine operator II	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Automobile mechanic	71	6	11.8	83.3
Automobile-mechanic helper	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Diesel mechanic	8	1	8.0	0.0
Maintenance mechanic	11	5	2.2	60.0
Machine operator, general	19	2	9.5	100.0
Sawmill worker	9	2	4.5	50.0
Stitcher, standard machine	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Production supervisor	7	1	n.a.	n.a.

Table 26. (continued)

Occupation	Total registered applicants available	Openings received during period	Ratio of applicants to openings	Percent of openings filled during period
Benchwork				
Assembler, small parts	48	0	n.a.	n.a.
Assembler, production	57	15	3.8	46.7
Electronics tester II	5	1	5.0	100.0
Electrical-control assembler	17	4	4.3	100.0
Sewing-machine operator	40	16	2.5	100.0
Structural Work				
Automobile-body repairer	12	0	n.a.	n.a.
Welder, arc	14	0	n.a.	n.a.
Welder, combination	18	2	9.0	100.0
Welder, production line	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Electrician	16	2	8.0	100.0
Electronics mechanic	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Painter	21	2	10.5	100.0
Painter helper, automotive	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Bulldozer operator	11	0	n.a.	n.a.
Operating engineer	10	0	n.a.	n.a.
Carpenter	48	1	48.0	0.0
Carpenter, rough	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Bricklayer	6	1	6.0	100.0
Oil-burner-service and installer	6	1	6.0	100.0
Plumber	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Roofer	16	5	3.2	100.0
Construction worker I	81	4	20.3	50.0
Construction worker II	85	17	5.0	94.1
Maintenance repairer, factory	5	2	2.5	50.0
Maintenance repairer, bldg.	35	7	5.0	85.7
Highway-maintenance worker	10	1	10.0	100.0
Miscellaneous				
Tractor trailer truck driver	50	2	25.0	100.0
Truck driver, heavy	49	9	5.4	100.0
Truck driver helper	5	0	n.a.	n.a.
Truck driver, light	25	0	n.a.	n.a.
Track repairer	8	0	n.a.	n.a.
Bus driver	20	3	6.7	67.7
Automobile service station attendant	14	1	14.0	100.0
Tire repairer	8	1	8.0	100.0
Packager, hand	36	34	1.1	97.1
Industrial truck operator	9	0	n.a.	n.a.
Laborer, stores	12	0	n.a.	n.a.
Lumber handler	5	4	1.3	100.0
Cutter, banana room	6	0	n.a.	n.a.
Material handler	122	19	6.4	100.0
Print-shop helper	10	0	n.a.	n.a.

APPENDIX II

PERCENT CHANGE IN POPULATION BY DECADE
USA, NEW YORK STATE AND OTSEGO COUNTY
1900 - 1980

Decade	United States*	New York State	Otsego County
1900-1910	21.4	25.4	-3.5
1910-1920	15.3	14.0	-2.2
1920-1930	15.6	21.2	1.1
1930-1940	7.7	7.1	-1.3
1940-1950	14.9	10.0	10.2
1950-1960	18.6	13.2	2.3
1960-1970	13.5	8.7	8.2
1970-1980	11.0	-3.8	5.2
1900-1980	199.2	141.5	20.7

* Excludes Alaska and Hawaii prior to 1940.

APPENDIX III

POPULATION BY AGE, 1970; BY SEX AND AGE, 1980
CHANGE IN POPULATION BY AGE, 1970-1980
OTSEGO COUNTY

Age	1970 Total	1980			Change in total population 1970-1980	
		Total	Male	Female	Number	Percent
Under 1	836	772	422	350	-64	-7.7
1 and 2	1,536	1,353	683	670	-183	-11.9
3 and 4	1,619	1,342	687	655	-277	-17.1
5	892	632	335	297	-260	-29.1
6	995	625	322	303	-370	-37.2
7-9	2,916	2,360	1,209	1,151	-556	-19.1
10-13	4,039	3,445	1,765	1,680	-594	-14.7
14	990	926	490	436	-64	-6.5
15	980	1,003	486	517	+23	+2.3
Under 16	14,803	12,458	6,399	6,059	-2,345	-15.8
16	965	1,029	551	478	+64	+6.6
17	1,030	1,008	491	517	-22	-2.1
18	1,791	1,968	875	1,093	+177	+9.9
19	1,922	2,136	924	1,212	+214	+11.1
16-19	5,708	6,141	2,841	3,300	+433	+7.6
20-24	6,005	7,078	3,268	3,810	+1,073	+17.9
25-29	2,980	4,089	2,003	2,086	+1,109	+37.2
30-34	2,485	3,769	1,917	1,852	+1,284	+51.7
35-44	5,302	5,779	2,805	2,974	+477	+9.0
45-54	6,149	5,373	2,599	2,774	-776	-12.6
55-59	2,836	3,058	1,405	1,653	+222	+7.8
60-64	2,745	2,843	1,344	1,499	+98	+3.6
65-74	4,207	4,887	2,183	2,704	+680	+16.2
75-84	1,415	2,642	1,028	1,614	+1,227	+86.7
85+	1,546	958	277	681	-588	-38.0
55 and over	12,749	14,388	6,237	8,151	+1,639	+12.9
All ages	56,181	59,075	28,069	31,006	+2,894	+5.2

SOURCE: U.S. Census of Population: 1970, PC(1)-B34, Table 35. 1980 Census of Population, Characteristics of People and Housing, New York State Data Center.

APPENDIX IV

SELECTED POPULATION AND HOUSING STATISTICS TAKEN FROM 1980 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING
OTSEGO COUNTY

1. Population characteristics	Number
Urban population	14,933
Rural	44,142
Families	14,159
Households	20,228

2. Marital status	Total	Male	Female
Single	15,587	7,673	7,914
Married	25,056	12,503	12,553
Separated	829	359	470
Widowed	4,123	726	3,397
Divorced	2,025	895	1,130

2. Housing units (all types	23,877
Urban	4,636
Rural	19,241
Year-round housing units*	22,191
Occupied	20,228
Vacant	1,963
Seasonal/migratory units	1,686

4. Occupied housing units by number of persons in unit:

		Tenure	
Person/unit**	Total	owner	Renter
1 person	4,843	2,598	2,245
2 persons	6,714	5,103	1,611
3 persons	3,202	2,365	837
4 persons	2,987	2,376	611
5 persons	1,452	1,157	295
6+ persons	1,030	777	253

5. Value of owner-occupied noncondominium housing units:

Value	Total
Less than $10,000	381
10,000 - 14,999	548
15,000 - 19,999	770
20,000 - 24,999	1,215
25,000 - 29,999	1,213
30,000 - 34,999	1,249
35,000 - 39,999	907
40,000 - 49,999	1,244
50,000 - 79,999	1,079
80,000 - 99,999	134
100,000 - 149,999	64
150,000 - 199,999	13
200,000+	8
Median value	31,100

6. Race of householders	Total	Owner	Renter
White	20,016	14,276	5,740
Black	99	39	60
American Indian/ Eskimo/Aleut.	28	13	15
Asian/Pacific Islander	54	36	18
Other	31	12	19
Spanish origin householders	97	52	45
White	87	49	38
Black	3	3	

* Median rooms in year-round units - 5.6
** Median persons/unit - 2.29

APPENDIX V

SELECTED INCOME STATISTICS FROM A SAMPLE SURVEY CONDUCTED DURING THE 1980 CENSUS
OTSEGO COUNTY

1) Family Income in 1979 by Race/Ethnic Origin

Income level	Total	White	Total	American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Spanish origin
Under $5,000	905	881	15	4	3	12
5,000 to 7,499	1,147	1,139	0	6	2	6
7,500 to 9,999	1,491	1,478	1	0	0	17
10,000 to 14,999	2,906	2,874	21	11	0	7
15,000 to 19,999	2,692	2,672	2	18	0	12
20,000 to 24,999	1,990	1,966	9	3	12	1
25,000 to 34,999	1,965	1,956	9	0	0	9
35,000 to 49,999	687	685	0	0	0	2
50,000 or more	402	396	0	0	2	0
Mean	$18,527	$18,539	$14,249	$13,419	$22,597	$13,849

2) Poverty Status in 1979 of Persons by Age and Race

Category	Above poverty status	Below poverty status
Age		
Under 55	33,214	6,761
55-59	2,645	249
60-64	2,612	320
65 and over	7,091	898
Race		
Total	45,562	8,228
White	45,117	8,039
Black	200	101
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	91	10
Asian/Pacific Islander	83	31
Spanish origin	287	159

3) Persons by Poverty Status in 1979-Income as a Percent of Poverty Level

Percent of poverty level	Number of persons
Below 75 percent	5,237
75 to 124 percent	6,353
125 to 149 percent	3,376
150 to 199 percent	6,936
Above 199 percent	31,888

4) Households With Income in 1979 by Income Type

Income category	Households	Mean income
Total households	15,589	$15,251
Earnings		
Wage and salary	14,565	14,674
Nonfarm self employment	2,283	7,438
Farm self employment	1,170	6,021
Interest, dividends, or net rent	10,620	2,703
Social Security	7,203	4,098
Public Assistance	1,412	2,208
Other	5,968	3,387

5) Family Income by Number of Workers in 1979

Number of workers	Number of families	Mean income
No workers	2,062	$11,945
1 worker	4,608	15,414
2 or more workers	7,515	22,241

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's)

SMSA's are defined by the Office of Management and Budget. The OMB defines a standard metropolitan statistical area as "a city (cities) of specified population which constitutes the central city and the county (counties) in which it is located." A standard metropolitan statistical area may cross state lines.

Each standard metropolitan statistical area must include: "(a) one city with 50,000 or more inhabitants or (b) a city with at least 25,000 inhabitants, which together with those contiguous places (incorporated or unincorporated) having population densities of at least 1,000 persons per square mile, has a combined population of 50,000 and constitutes for general economic and social purposes a single community, provided that the county or counties in which the city and contiguous places are located has a total population of at least 75,000."

Labor Market Areas (LMA's)

Labor Market Areas are designated by the Department of Labor for various administrative and program purposes. The geographical boundaries for almost all LMA's are the same as those for Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas. However, since LMA's were established before SMSA's, there are some differences in a few places. State employment security agencies and the Department of Labor cooperate in establishing and revising LMA boundaries.

The SMSA or LMA cannot always be considered as one labor market. A majority of workers travel less than ten miles to work, and most SMSA's or LMA's are much larger. The general rationale for an LMA, however, is that it is a geographical location in which workers can change jobs without having to change their residences.

Civilian Labor Force

The sum of persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Total Employment

Estimates include all employed persons by place of residence, whether their jobs lie within or outside the labor area. Persons employed in nonfarm industries are the principal component of the total employment estimate. However, the nonfarm data, which are obtained from employer payroll records and initially represent a count of jobs, are adjusted to a place-of-residence basis in developing the total employment estimate. Adjustment of the nonfarm data is designed to eliminate the bias in total employment caused by multiple jobholding--nationwide, about 5 percent of all employed workers hold second jobs--and the effects of different commuting patterns. Other groups which make up the total employment estimate include self-employed persons and unpaid family workers in nonfarm industries; private household workers; and self-employed employees, and unpaid family workers in agriculture.

Total Unemployment

Estimates include all persons who during the midweek of the month were available for and actively seeking work, and who are without employment during the entire survey week. They include persons claiming unemployment insurance benefits, as well as those who have exhausted unemployment insurance rights, new workers and workers reentering the labor force, who have not established rights to unemployment insurance, and persons who have lost jobs which are not covered under the New York State Unemployment Insurance program or under federal programs.

Unemployment Rate

The rate is the total number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

Industrial Classification

Industries are classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual (Office of Management and Budget - 1972). The local economy of a county is built on the industries located there and in surrounding areas. The listing below categorizes all industries even though many of the industries listed are not in the county.

Manufacturing

Durable goods: The following products are produced by industries classified as manufacturers of durable goods. It is unlikely that all of these industries exist in any single county.

Lumber and wood products, except furniture
Furniture and fixtures
Stone, clay, glass, and concrete products
Primary metals
Fabricated metal products
Machinery, except electrical
Electrical and electronic machinery, equipment and supplies
Transportation equipment
Instruments and related products

Nondurable goods: The following products are produced by industries classified as manufacturers of nondurable goods. It is unlikely that all of these industries exist in any single county.

Food and kindred products
Tobacco products
Textile mill products
Apparel and other finished textile products
Paper and allied products
Printing, publishing and allied activities
Chemicals and allied products

Petroleum refining and related activities
Rubber and miscellaneous plastics products
Leather and leather products
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries
(jewelry, silverware, platedware, toys, amusements, sporting goods, office materials, notions, and other miscellaneous products)

Nonmanufacturing

Construction

General building construction
Heavy construction
Special trade contractors

Transportation, communication and public utilities

Railroad transportation
Air transportation
Other transportation
Communication
Electric, gas, and sanitary services

Wholesale and retail trade

Wholesale trade
Retail trade
Building materials, hardware, farm equipment
General merchandise
Food
Automobiles and service stations
Apparel and accessories
Furniture and home furnishings and equipment
Eating and drinking places
Miscellaneous

Finance, insurance, and real estate

Banking
Security and commodity brokers
Insurance carriers
Insurance agents and brokers
Real estate
Credit agencies, investment companies

Services and miscellaneous nonmanufacturing

Hotels
Hospitals (nongovernmental)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing
Mining

Total Payroll

Total payroll covers all wages and salaries paid to individuals covered by the New York State Unemployment Insurance program.

Average Weekly Earnings

Derived by dividing total payroll by average insured employment, and further dividing by 52 weeks.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Estimates include all nonfarm workers who received pay for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. Persons on paid sick leave, paid holidays or paid vacations are included; but those on leave without pay for the entire payroll period are excluded. Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment during the period are counted each time reported. Self-employed persons, unpaid family workers, and domestics are excluded.

Public Assistance

Government programs for cash or vendor payments to qualified persons lacking sufficient financial resources to provide shelter, fuel, light, food, clothing, household incidentals, and other basic items needed for health and welfare.

Aid to Dependent Children (ADC)

The Aid to Families with Dependent Children (ADC) program was established by Congress in 1935 under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. The federal government reimburses New York State for 50 percent of ADC payments. The state and local districts share the remaining 50 percent. The program provides continuing assistance to needy families with children under the age 18, or under the age 21, attending school, who meet the following criteria:

1. The child is living with certain specified relatives.
2. The child is additionally deprived of parental support or care because of:
   a. death,
   b. continued absence from the home,
   c. physical or mental incapacity or reduced earning capability, or
   d. unemployment of the parent.
3. The family meets the categorical eligibility requirements as set forth in Part 369 of Department Regulations,
4. The family meets the financial eligibility requirements as set forth in Part 352 of Department Regulations.

The ADC allowance consists of a basic flat grant, plus a shelter allowance, plus a fuel allowance, if not included in the rent. Each allowance category has a maximum and varies according to family size. Additional allowances may be provided if certain special needs are to be met.

ADC mothers with no children under the age of 6 are required to seek employment. For the employed ADC parent, there is an income exemption of the first $30 of gross earnings plus 1/3 of the balance.

Emergency Assistance to Families (EAF)

Emergency Assistance to Needy Families with Children (EAF) was established by Congress in 1967 under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. The Federal government reimburses New York State for 50 percent of EAF payments. The state and local districts share the remaining 50 percent. The program is intended to meet the temporary emergency needs of families with children under 21 who meet the following criteria:

1. The child is living with certain specified relatives or has lived with them within the last six months,

2. There are no resources immediately accessible to meet the emergency need,

3. Emergency assistance is necessary to prevent the child's destitution,

4. The emergency was not caused by a refusal without good cause to accept employment,

5. For recipients of ongoing public assistance, the emergency need was not caused by the loss, theft, or mismanagement of public assistance grant. The emergency grant cannot be used to replace or duplicate a public assistance grant already made.

EAF can be authorized during only one 30-day period in any 12 consecutive months. The authorization may, however, include payments to meet needs which arose before that 30-day authorization period and/or which will extend beyond it.

EAF can also be used to meet fuel emergency needs arising from the current energy crisis.

The EAF program is administered in conformance with Social Services Law Section 350-j and Department Regulations Section 372.

Home Relief (HR)

Home Relief is the residual New York State category of public assistance, financed entirely by state and local funds. Home Relief is provided to needy applicant individuals, e.g.,

able-bodied childless individuals or couples and intact natural families in which the wages from full-time employment are insufficient to keep the families' income and resources above the state-determined standard of need. Home Relief may by provided only when the standard of need may not be met by P-ADC, ADC, ADC-U, ADC-FC, EAF, SSI, EEA, support from legally responsible relatives, or other sources.

Home Relief eligibility requirements are set forth in Part 370 of Department Regulations. Financial eligibility requirements are set forth in Part 352 of Department Regulations.

The HR allowance consists of a basic flat grant, plus a shelter allowance, plus a fuel allowance if not included in rent. Each allowance category has a maximum and varies according to family size. Additional allowances may be provided if certain special needs are met.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program was established by Congress in 1974 under Title XVI of the Social Security Act. The Social Security Administration (SSA) administers the program which provides a federal flat grant to individuals and couples who are aged, blind and disabled. The flat grant is different for individuals and for couples and also varies according to living arrangement.

The federal benefit increases at a rate equal to yearly increases in the Consumer Price Index. In New York State, the federal flat grant is supplemented by state funds which are also administered under contract by SSA. There are no local funds in the SSI benefit.

If the standard of need is not met by the SSI benefit and other resources, Home Relief may be provided to meet any remaining deficit.

Emergency Assistance for Adults (EAA)

Emergency Assistance for Adults (EAA) is authorized by Section 300 of the State Social Services Law. EAA was created to assits SSI recipients with emergency needs which cannot be met by the basic SSI monthly benefit. Expenditures for EEA are shared equally between the state and local districts.

EEA provides assistance under a range of circumstances, including but not limited to:

1. Catastrophic loss of clothing, furniture, food, fuel, and shelter,

2. Stolen or mismanaged cash,

3. Moving expenses,

4. Maintenance of home while person is temporarily hospitalized,

5. Threatened eviction or utility shut-off,

6. Lost, stolen or unreceived SSI check.

Census Definitions of Race and Hispanic

Information on race was obtained through self-identification; therefore, the data represent self-classification by people according to the race with which they identify themselves. Population counts in this report are shown for five racial groups; White; black; American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut; Asian and Pacific Islander; and other.

White

The category "White" includes persons who indicate their race as white, as well as persons who did not classify themselves in one of the specific race categories listed on the questionnaire but entered a response suggesting European origin such as German, Italian, or Polish. (In the 1980 Census, persons who did not classify themselves in one of the specific race categories but reported entries such as Cuban, Puerto Rican, Mexican, or Dominican were included in the "other" races category; in the 1970 Census, most of these persons were included in the "White" category).

Black

The category "Black" includes persons who indicated their race as black or Negro, as well as persons who did not classify themselves in one of the specific rage categories listed on the questionnaire but reported entries such as Jamaican, Black, Puerto Rican, West Indian, Haitian, or Nigerian.

American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut

The category "American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut" includes persons who classified themselves as such in one of the specific race categories. In addition, persons who did not report themselves in one of the specific race categories but reported the name of an Indian tribe were classified as American Indian.

Asian and Pacific Islander

The category "Asian and Pacific Islander" includes persons who indicated their race as Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Hawaiian, Guamanian, or Samoan. Persons who did not classify themselves in one of the specific race categories but reported entries indicating one of the nine categories listed above were classified accordingly. For example, reported entries of Nipponese and Japanese American were classified as Japanese; entries of Taiwanese and Cantonese as Chinese, etc.

Other

The category "other" includes Asian and Pacific Islander groups not identified separately (e.g., Cambodian, Indochinese, Pakistani, Indonesian, Fiji Islander) and other races not included in the specific categories listed on the questionnaire.

Hispanic

Hispanics are those who classified themselves in one of the specific Hispanic or Spanish origin categories listed on the Census questionnaire--Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban--as well as those who indicated that they were of other Spanish/Hispanic origin. Persons reporting "other Spanish/Hispanic" origin are those whose origins are from Spain or the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, or they are Hispanic persons identifying themselves generally as Spanish, Spanish American, Hispano, Latino, etc. Origin or descent can be viewed as the ancestry, nationality group, lineage, or country in which the persons or persons's parents or ancestors were born before their arrival in the United State. Hispanics may be of any race. The Census utilizes the term "Spanish Origin"; this publication uses the interchangeable term "Hispanic".

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